

Inquiry likely on sharp share rise before steel bid was known

The Stock Exchange Council is likely to hold an inquiry into the sharp rise in the share price of Lyle Trading Company, steel stockholders, before an agreed bid by the British Steel Corporation was announced yesterday.

Leak of information at BSC is feared

A Stock Exchange inquiry is likely into dealings in the shares of Lyle Trading Company immediately before the agreed takeover bid from the nationalized British Steel Corporation.

'No court can stand by and allow its orders to be defied or ignored', Sir John Donaldson tells AUEW Engineering strike call is feared after order to seize union assets

A complete strike in the engineering industry may be called next week after an order in the National Industrial Relations Court yesterday for the seizure of the financial assets of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

The union has been given an exceptionally long period in which to take legal advice and in which to reconsider its position. That period cannot be further prolonged.

Ministers angry: Ministers were angered and dismayed last night at the order to seize the AUEW's funds. Some said that Sir John Donaldson had acted maliciously.



A study of studious visitors in Gallery 5 at the private view yesterday of the Royal Academy's 206th Summer Exhibition at Burlington House, Piccadilly.

Ransom note offers five paintings if prisoners are moved to Ulster

From Denis Taylor, Blessington, Co Wicklow: A ransom letter posted in Belfast demanding the transfer to prison in Northern Ireland of the Price sisters and two other hunger strikers.

Talks fail to end air strike threat

The threat of a strike from Tuesday by cabin staff of the British Airways Overseas Division remained last night after talks between management and unions broke down.

Poll results in London deter thoughts of an early general election

Senior politicians have turned even further away from the prospect of an early general election after the London through election results yesterday.

Table with 3 columns: Party, Gains, Losses. Rows: C, Lab, L, Other.

Masked men seize Spanish bank official in Paris

From Edward Mortimer, Paris, May 3: Three masked men kidnaped a Spanish bank manager in Paris this morning in front of his son and daughter.

Bonn spy 'had affairs with secretaries'

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn, May 3: The senior Bonn Chancery official held last week on suspicion of spying for East Germany had affairs with two highly placed secretaries also working there.

Syria's growing confidence in Kissinger approach brings hope for ceasefire

From Paul Martin, Damascus, May 3: Dr Henry Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, has laid the groundwork for what is expected to be his most exhaustive round of shuttle diplomacy so far in the search for a Middle East peace.

'The Times': a statement on move from PHS

In a statement last night, The Times management said: "We are engaged in crucial discussions with the unions about the forthcoming move from Princedale House Square to Gray's Inn Road."

Advertisement for 'If you hold shares consider exchanging them now' by Save & Prosper Group funds. Includes details about stock market prices and fund benefits.

HOME NEWS

Extremists on both sides blamed for six killings in Ulster

From Robert Fisk Belfast
Protestant extremists and the Provisional IRA appear to have been responsible in almost equal proportions for the most serious outbreak of violence in Northern Ireland this year.



Professor Max Beloff, principal of University College at Buckingham, with Lord Hailsham, of St Mary's, who unveiled a foundation plaque yesterday. The college is to be financed solely by fees and endowments, ultimately becoming an independent university.

Liberals to contest Mr Short's constituency

By Our Political Editor
Mr Edward Short, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons, will have a Liberal opponent at Newcastle upon Tyne, Central, at the next general election.

National parks grants 'not intended to relieve rates'

Mr Howell, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, said yesterday that the greatly increased government grants for national parks were intended to provide additional resources, and not to relieve the rates or to enable county councils to switch resources.

Major parties claim successes in polls that lived up to predictions

By Christopher Warman Local Government Correspondent
The London borough elections which took place quietly on Thursday in the shadow of the general election, and left in peace by opinion polls, have produced results that were not only predictable but which had been predicted by the major parties.

Security man questioned in ill treatment inquiry

From Christopher Walker Stavanger
An unidentified member of the British security forces spent a grilling four hours yesterday morning answering detailed and often angry questions from Irish lawyers about his alleged ill-treatment of an IRA suspect introduced on August 3, 1971.

Record £102,833 paid for Salvador Dali painting

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent
Two sales of Impressionist and modern paintings and drawings at Parke Bernet, New York, on Thursday confirmed recent high selective trends.

London borough election results

In the following results the party controlling each borough before the elections is shown in brackets after the name. Seats of retiring aldermen are shown as vacant seats. The figures include aldermen remaining in office until 1978, when all aldermanic seats disappear.

Retrial in baby case after QC withdraws

Mr Justice Melford Stevenson at St Albans Crown Court, Herefordshire, yesterday ordered a retrial in the case of a young couple alleged to have brutally battered their baby son.

Stairway change 'might have saved lives'

If Glasgow Rangers Football Club had spent £30,000 on improvements to stairway 13, the 1971 fire disaster, in which 66 people died, might have been avoided, Mr Malcolm Threlfall, a construction and engineering expert, said at Glasgow Sheriff Court yesterday.

Weather forecast and recordings

Weather forecast and recordings section containing a map of the UK with weather symbols, a table of today's and tomorrow's weather, and a list of weather reports from various locations.

First by-election on May 23

The by-election in Newbam, South, caused when Sir Elwyn Jones, now Lord Elwyn-Jones, the Lord Chancellor, was created a peer, is to be on May 23.

Mrs Williams's husband seeks divorce

Solicitors acting for Mrs Shirley Williams, the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, issued the following statement last night: A petition for divorce has been filed by Professor Williams against his wife, Mrs Shirley Williams.

Rights of individual at centre of Tory thinking

By Our Political Staff
Conservative shadow ministers are carrying out a re-appraisal of party policy, with the rights of the individual at the centre of their thinking.

The power of chance

Last year The Sunday Times published an article by Arthur Knestrick on coincidence, inviting readers to submit their own experiences.

Donkey stud for sale

The donkey stud owned by Sir Francis Dashwood at West Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, which has attracted thousands of visitors, is to be sold on May 25 because of staffing difficulties.

Mr Deedes chosen

Mr William Deedes, Conservative MP for Ashford, has been appointed chairman of the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration in its inquiry into employment begun in the last Parliament.

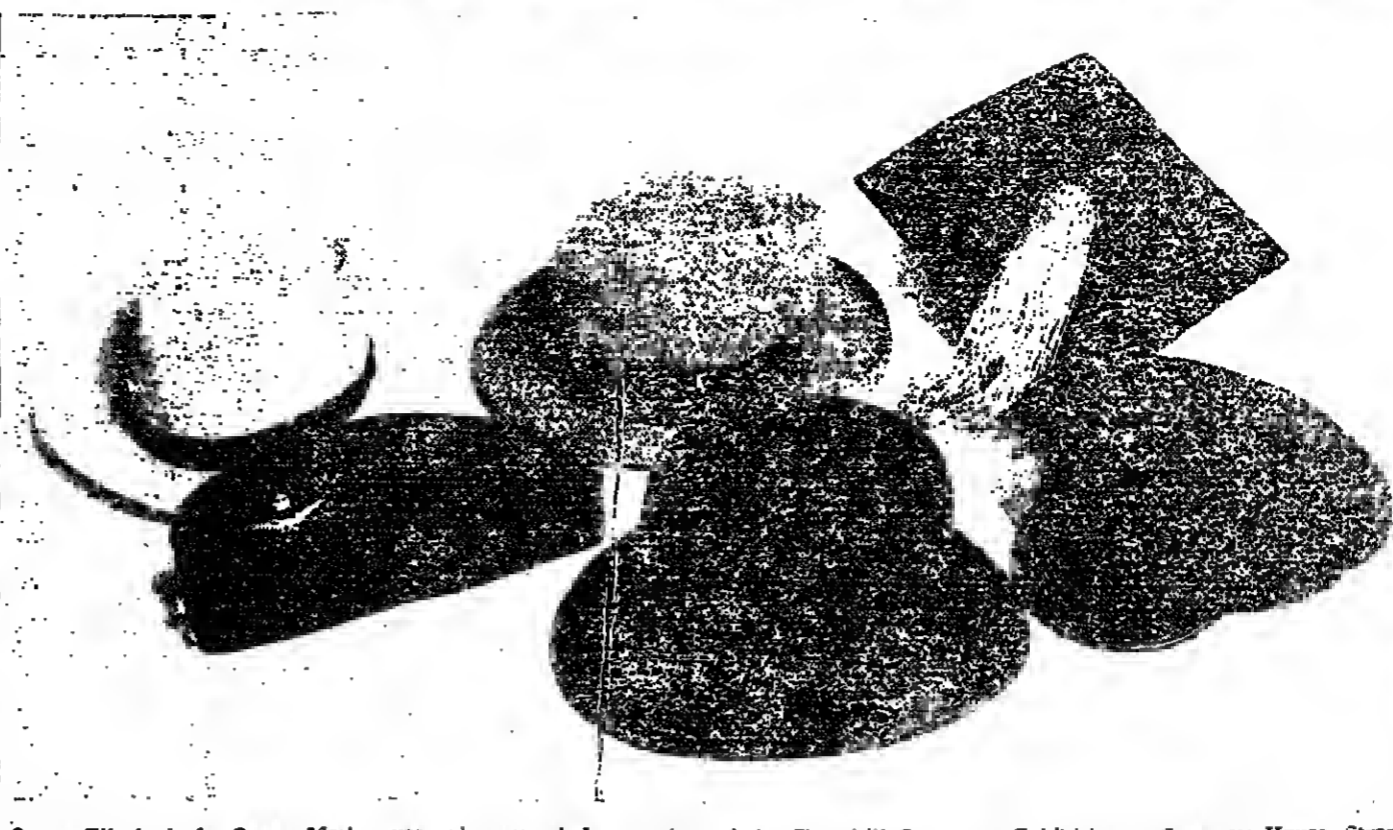
HOME NEWS

President of Open University students resigns over finance

By Tim Devlin Education Correspondent Mr Eric Begbie, president of the Open University's students' association, has resigned after a dispute with his council over giving more autonomy to the association's 70 branches. Mr Begbie said his scheme to allow the branches to decide how much money they should collect from their members and to retain most of it was rejected. Instead, Mr Rex O'Hare, the association's general secretary, was invited to present a paper opposing the scheme at the next council meeting. The association has 10,000 members, each contributing a yearly subscription of £1 to the central council. Mr Begbie said yesterday: "Mr O'Hare is a servant of the council and has no right to contribute to the debate." Mr Begbie, aged 29, is director of social work for the County Council. He is studying for an honours degree in social sciences. He is the association's second president. The first, Mrs Millie Marsland, later became vice-president but resigned this year because of pressure of work. Warning on grants: University Vice-Chancellors welcomed the report in The Times yesterday that the maximum grant for students is to be increased from £485 to about £515 a year. Lord Annan, Vice-Chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors, gave the warning that inflation is so severe that even now students will have to get a further £50 a year if they are to pay university charges for residence and refectory. More increases for students are likely to be announced on May 14. The grant for home-based students, of whom there are nearly 80,000 in Britain, is expected to be increased from £390 to nearly £490. About 15,000 married women students, who get £295 a year, are also likely to have their grants increased to nearly £490. The Department of Education and Science and the Treasury are negotiating, but it is likely that entitlement to the maximum grant will be extended to more than 30,000 students on Higher National Diplomas and other allied advanced further education courses. Many students on those courses get the full grant, but this has been at the discretion of the local authorities. The National Union of Students will be holding a conference next month to discuss the Government's decision.

Liberals set a Budget snare for the Tories

By Our Political Editor Liberals yesterday set another snare for Mr Heath and the Shadow Cabinet by announcing that they will table a reasoned amendment for next Thursday declining to give a second reading to the Finance Bill, the legislative form of Mr Healey's Budget. Liberal tactics in the Commons are to provoke Mr Heath and the Conservatives into battles with the Labour Government which they can neither refuse with dignity nor engage in at a strength that might give Mr Wilson an excuse to say the Government is being denied the opportunity to govern. The Conservative Party does not want an early election, and therefore the Liberals are devising occasions for demonstrating their timidity. As framed by Mr John Pardo, the Liberal spokesman on Treasury affairs, the reasoned amendment to the second reading has been designed to condense the widespread opinion of the Conservative rank and file. It reads: "That this House declines to give a second reading to the Finance Bill, which does nothing to stop the rate of inflation rising to a level which is a danger to democracy, fails to protect those on lower incomes who suffer most from inflation, and yet increases the danger of an unacceptable level of unemployment."



Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother yesterday attended a preview of the Church of the Centenary Exhibition at Somerset House, Strand, which opens to the public today. Among the many possessions of Sir Winston on display is this collection of his hats.

Council talks on plan to move pit's coal by road

From Ronald Kershaw Leeds Environmental aspects of National Coal Board proposals to move by road 2,000 tons of coal a day from a new drift mine at Royston, near Barnsley, will be discussed between the board and officials of West Yorkshire and South Yorkshire metropolitan county councils, and Wakefield and Barnsley metropolitan district councils, when the planning application is submitted shortly. In a preliminary outline submission the board has said the coal will go to power stations at Wakefield, Leeds, Dewsbury and Elland. A West Yorkshire board official said a working party of officers of the four local planning authorities affected was investigating the preliminary submission with the board and with British Rail and the Central Electricity Generating Board. They would try to secure basic areas of agreement and to advise the authorities of the full circumstances and background to the intended formal planning application. Referring to transport, Mr A. John Rees, West Riding County Council executive director of planning, said the planning committee was aware of the concern of many people. The Royston Drift mine will cost £2m, produce an estimated 400,000 tons a year from reserves of more than 10 million tons.

Money debasement nettle 'must be grasped', MP says

By Our Political Editor It was profoundly significant that this week the editor of The Times should have argued at such length and with such vigour for a return to the gold standard and the consequential monetary disciplines. Mr John Biffen, Conservative MP for Goswary, said at a meeting of his constituency association last night. Last night Mr Biffen's only reference to Mr Powell was indirect. He said the drift into inflation might have been averted with relatively modest social and economic pain. Such a remedy was mainly sought by Mr Peter Thorneycroft (now Lord Thorneycroft) as Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1957. "I am sure", Mr Biffen said, "that in future times students will look back at those years and see much significance in the Cabinet differences which led to the resignation of Lord Thorneycroft and his fellow Treasury ministers." Today, Mr Biffen continued, substantial growth in government activity had made its finest financing ever more cunning. As the Government had resorted to printing money and rigging interest rates lower than would otherwise be the case, so the pace of inflation had developed. Britain was living on borrowed time. Inflation could not continue at its present rate without fearful economic and social consequences. "I have not sought to conceal that a policy to fight inflation is bound to produce initial hardship while economic expectations are adjusted to the new situation. It requires a political will and resolution that has a sense of perspective, and where horizons are not limited to the principle that a week is a long time in politics." Letters, page 13

Oil company man awarded a record £89,068

From Our Correspondent Manchester Mr Ivo Huskisson, aged 31, a former executive with a major oil company, whose career was wrecked when he was crippled in a road accident, was awarded record damages of £89,068 with costs in the High Court in Manchester yesterday. Mr Huskisson, now a clerk with the company, is paralysed from the waist down and must spend the rest of his life in a wheelchair. Mr Justice Kilner Brown said, making the award, the judge praised Mr Huskisson, of Temple Road, Sale, Cheshire, for his "indomitable courage and determination". The judge added: "He had been married for three months to an attractive, charming, and talented young woman. He had just tasted life to the full and for 30 years, his life expectancy, he will realize what has been snatched from him." The judge said Mrs Sandra Huskisson, aged 26, had shown great devotion in helping her husband. The award was against the personal representatives of Mr John Barry Holmes, who was killed when his van collided with Mr Huskisson's car on the Chester-Manchester road at Hartford, Cheshire, in July, 1971. The defendants, who admitted liability, were given a stay of execution for 28 days to consider an appeal.

Advertising curbs urged at environment conference

By Pearce Wright Science Correspondent Higher taxes on energy, curbs on advertising to damp down demand and a decrease in population were among the policies advocated at a conference called by the Institute for Fiscal Studies in London yesterday to consider the role of fiscal policies in safeguarding the environment. The meeting, between economists, scientists and engineers, provoked some sharply contrasting views on actions needed to conserve resources, to control pollution and for industrial growth that would protect future generations. Mr J. R. C. LeComber, an economist, criticized the "growth men" who wanted no restriction to increasing the use of resources, but said he was not in favour of the so-called zero economic growth idea. Future generations were no longer going to be unbelievably wealthy, as some of his fellow-economists would have people believe, he said. The centre of the pessimists' case was that the future would be different from the past, in that the limits to growth of finite resources would be reached. Professor R. Scorer, Imperial College, argued that a higher tax on energy consumption was needed to safeguard future generations. He was concerned about the incursion to the future contained in present accountancy practices in investment. The greedy consumption of large amounts of coal and oil was only justifiable if a new and better base for survival was secured before the reserves were used up. We had to recognize that energy from nuclear fission was still difficult to obtain, Professor Scorer said. We were still learning to control it safely and must not be misled by the large amount of energy that was theoretically obtainable. It was not generally appreciated that the kind of growth of the past two decades and the way it was organized could not possibly be the basis upon which humanity would get through the next 50 years.

Partner swindled firm of nearly £80,000

Walker Gilbert Brookes, aged 71, a partner in a London firm of chartered accountants, was sentenced at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to three years' imprisonment for swindling the firm of £79,891 in 14 years. When the law finally caught up with him, Mr Justice MacKenna was told, he had filed his petition in bankruptcy. The main cause of his shortage of money was his habit, over a considerable number of years, of going on holiday abroad, the prosecution said. Mr Brookes, of Westham Drive, Beachlands, Pevensey Bay, Sussex, pleaded guilty to five charges of stealing money belonging to Fuller, Jenks, Beecroft & Co, chartered accountants, now of Torrington Place, Bloomsbury, and three charges of falsifying accounts. He asked for 45 similar offences to be considered, the total value of these being more than £60,000.

In brief

Swine disease controls ended

All restrictions in swine vesicular disease "controlled areas" are to be ended from midnight tomorrow, but they will remain in force on premises where the disease has been confirmed, the Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday. Since the disease was first confirmed in Britain in December, 1972, there have been 221 outbreaks, involving the slaughter of 130,614 pigs.

53 bomb hoax calls

TERENCE EWING, aged 21, of no fixed address, a former social science student, was committed to hospital under the Mental Health Act yesterday after pleading guilty at Bow Street Magistrates' Court to seven specimen charges involving worthless cheques and two bomb hoax calls. He asked for 51 more bomb hoaxes to be taken into consideration.

Candidate stands down

Mr Frederick Inglis, a lecturer, who was Labour candidate for Derbyshire, West, in the general election last February and in June, 1970, will not fight the division again.

Coaster hearing ends

The inquiry in London into the loss of the British coaster Burtonia in 1972 ended, on its forty-third day yesterday and the committee, headed by Mr R. F. Stone, QC, will now sift transcripts amounting to more than 1,500,000 words.

Nurses' action warning

The Royal College of Nursing said in a statement yesterday that unless nurses' wages and conditions were improved, "action" would follow. Fair treatment for nurses was the only way to overcome the "crisis of confidence and morale".

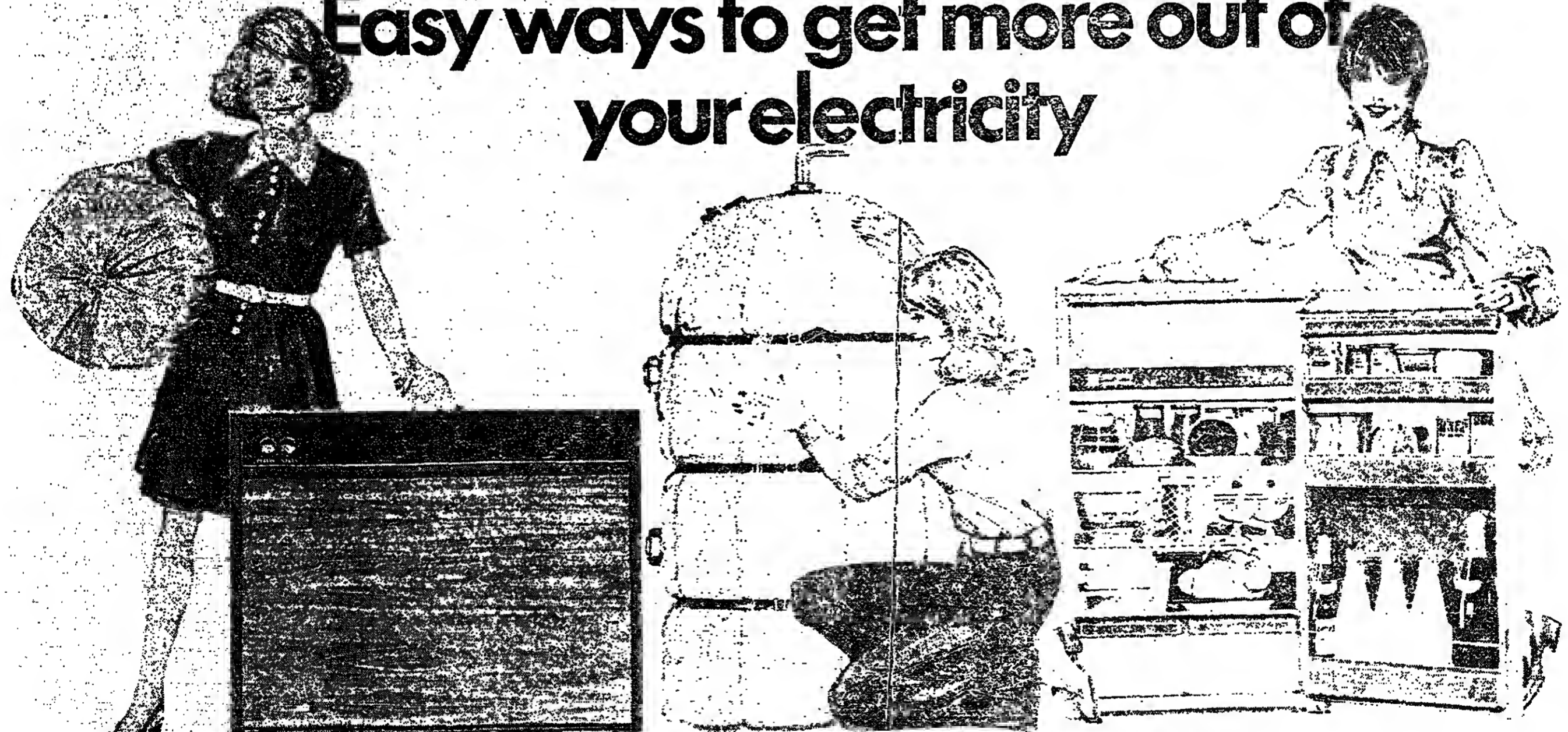
Football death

A policeman collapsed and died during a football match between two CID teams at Cambridgehire police headquarters, Hinchbrook Park, near Huntingdon, last night.

Correction

In the opening paragraph of his article in the Special Report on the National Health on April 25 Dr Tom Arie referred to the advances in treatment which have reduced the need for hospital admission and for long-stay hospital care. An interpolation, which was not authorized by Dr Arie, made an exception of mental illness. His point was a different one, that these very advances in psychiatry have created new problems in regard to the large residue of patients who still need long-term care.

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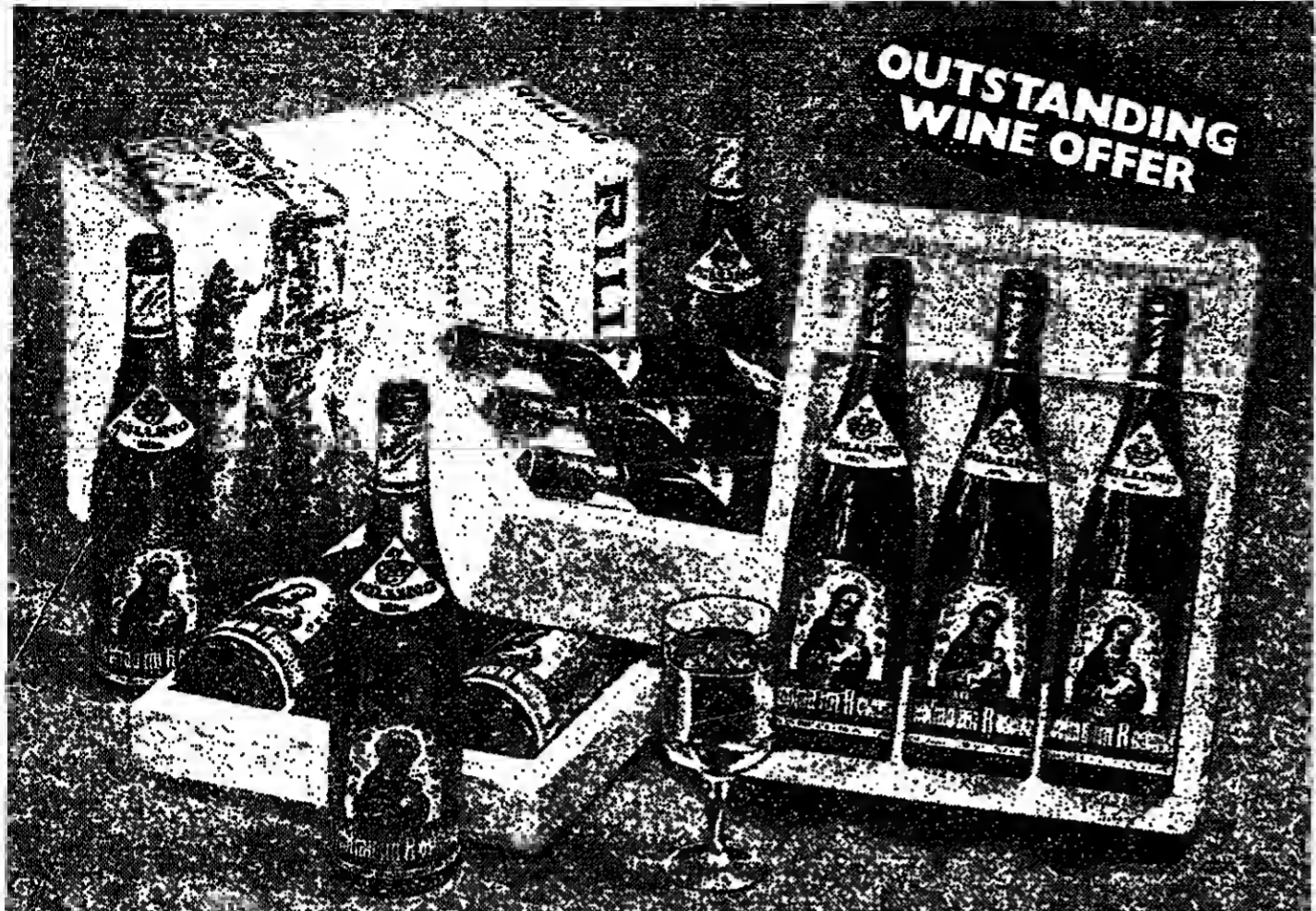
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# Honours broker extraordinary

Tom Cullen on the rise and fall of J Maundy Gregory

J. Maundy Gregory is in that direct line of English con-men descending from the promoters of the South Sea Bubble to today's pyramid salesmen by way of Arthur Orton, the Wapping butcher famed for his clamorous and Horatio Bottomley, who not only looked like John Bull but founded a periodical of that name. Maundy Gregory was not the first Englishman to sell royal honours, but he was by far the most successful—dispensing more knight-hoods and baronetcies than any other, and over a longer period of time. Some might argue that he was not a confidence-trickster in the accepted meaning of the term since he usually delivered the goods for which he had been paid, but towards the end when his financial situation had become desperate he resorted to outright swindles by taking money for honours he knew he could not deliver. The Honours (Prevention of Abuses) Act of 1925 may not have been passed by Parliament expressly for his benefit, but in the half century since its passage no one but Gregory has been brought to trial under its provisions.

Gregory, whose career was like "an incandescent meteor" in the words of his friend A. J. A. Symonds, could not have operated for long without the friendship and protection of powerful men including cabinet ministers, Balkan royalties, peers, generals, admirals, and senior civil servants. One good friend was Brigadier-General Sir William Horwood, Commissioner of Metropolitan Police, to whom Gregory presented a silver trophy to be competed for annually at the police horse show at Amber Court. Lord Birkenhead, the former Lord Chancellor, nicknamed Gregory "the Cheerful Giver", as a tribute to the fact that he was a red-headed, middle-aged, one-time Secretary of State for War, Gregory was "my man Friday". As a repository of secrets, Gregory in time came to be feared in Whitehall. His retirement in 1928 and Birkenhead's death two years later deprived Gregory of his two most influential friends. Stanley Baldwin, who hated to see the Royal Prerogative debased through the sale of honours, gave the signal for a war of attrition against Gregory, which eventually succeeded.

There was another, perhaps darker side of Gregory's life: his friendship with Edith Ross, a red-headed, middle-aged former actress with whom he shared a flat in St John's Wood. In 1933 Gregory became a suspect in the strange death of Mrs Ross, whose will, scribbled by a hotel menu, left him her entire estate valued at £18,000, and this at a time when he was desperately in need of money. Although Mrs Ross's remains were exhumed seven months after burial and subjected to exhaustive forensic tests, no trace of poison could be found. Meanwhile Gregory, for whom a subpoena had been issued to appear at the coroner's inquest, hid out in a Paris hotel, where he had registered as "Peter Michael".

Arthur John Peter Michael Maundy Gregory claimed that he had the blood of eight English kings flowing through his veins, and to prove it he would produce a four-foot scroll compiled for him by the College of Heralds and signed by the Garter King of Arms. According to this remarkable document Gregory could number among his forebears John of Gaunt, Harry Percy and the Black Prince. But it is intriguing to Gregory's biography that the blue blood came almost exclusively from his mother's side of the family, the Maynaws, who were Lords of the Manor of Bray in Cornwall. Why he should have been ashamed of his father, the Reverend Francis Gregory, who came from a long and distinguished line of clergymen is difficult to fathom, but Gregory's antagonism towards his father cut deeper than any question of genealogy.

Gregory was born on July 1, 1877 at Southampton, where his father was vicar of St Michael's, both the oldest and

the poorest living in this seaport town. Though he is remembered today as a saint, the Reverend Francis Gregory's efforts to introduce High Anglican ritual in what had been a predominantly evangelical parish were not well received; he was even insulted in the streets and threatened with physical violence. Some of this rubbed off on the youthful Maundy, who was taunted by his schoolmates as "Pope lower". His father had his heart set on Maundy taking Holy Orders, and he was sent to Oxford with this object in view. But Mr Gregory's death in March, 1899, relieved Maundy of this, to him, distasteful prospect, and on coming down from Oxford he plunged into a theatrical career. In the next five years he appeared as an actor under no fewer than 18 managements. Either Gregory was restless and changing jobs, or he was being fired with extraordinary frequency.

Gregory's early life was in fact a series of failures. In 1906, Gregory, having switched from acting to management, was dismissed as manager of Frank Benson's northern Shakespearean company after being caught with his hand in the till. Three years later Gregory's efforts to crash London's West End as an impresario with a revival of the light opera *Dorothy at the Waldorf Theatre* ended in disaster when the musicians, who had not been paid, went on strike following a Saturday matinee. Instead of urging the musicians to wait until the evening's box office receipts were in Gregory lost his head. Like the madman in *The Phantom of the Opera* he rushed to the basement of the Waldorf Theatre and pulled the mains switch to plunge the auditorium into darkness. He then gave it out that there had been an "electrical failure".

So far, there had been nothing to suggest Gregory's greater to suggest that he would ever play a role in politics. But in 1910 Gregory surfaced—as editor of *Mayfair* and *Town Topics*, *The Society Journal*, complete with an idea which was beautiful in its simplicity. Gregory reasoned that Edwardian society included a large number of newly rich who would pay handsomely to have their portraits sandwiched between gossip paragraphs about duchesses. Gregory's hunch proved correct, and soon his agents were queuing to have their portraits done for *Mayfair* ("Town Topics" was soon dropped from the masthead) by artists with such fanciful names as "Pip", "Eli", and "Olip" (a portrait by the inimitable Leslie Ward, who signed his work "Soy" cost extra). Gregory quickly changed the heading of the *Mayfair* feature from "Man of the Day" to "Man of the Twentieth Century", and began running them off in batches of four and five in each issue. Many who paid for these puff pieces were later to become his clients.

Gregory was not slow to draw the moral that those who were willing to pay for mere propinquity to the titled would be willing to pay much more to be possessor of the title itself. By 1914 he was ready to set up in business as an honours broker, but he was interested.

Nothing much is known about Maundy Gregory's wartime activities except that he was employed by M.I.5. (In the "confidential" memo which he gave to clients Gregory claimed that in his M.I.5 capacity he "employed" some 1,000 agents; but as no more than 350 personnel were employed in counter-intelligence, even at the height of the war, this may be taken as a typical Gregorian exaggeration). With the Armistice Gregory emerged full-blown on the political scene, operating under the cover of editor-publisher of the monthly *Whitehall Gazette* and *St James's Review*, which, looked official; but was, in fact, bogus.

It was said that if Maundy Gregory had not existed Lloyd George would have had to invent him. Pledged to make Britain "a land fit for heroes" Lloyd George's wartime Coalition government was swept back into office by a landslide

vote at the so-called "Coupon" election of December 14, 1918. It was hailed as Lloyd George's greatest triumph; in reality it was his worst defeat. Of the 484 Coalitionists elected to Parliament only 136 were of the Welsh Premier's own Coalition Liberal persuasion, the balance being Conservatives. Thus, having broken with the official Liberal party, Lloyd George found himself a prisoner of the Tories. None better than the Welsh Wizard realized that if he were to survive politically he must found his own party and raise funds to fight the next election. How better to raise such a party fund than through the sale of honours?

Selling honours, Lloyd George told J. C. Davidson, chairman of the Conservative Party, 1926-30, was "a far cleaner method of filling the Party chest than the methods used in the United States", a comparison which makes interesting reading a half century later in light of Watergate and its sister scandals. "In America," Lloyd George went on, "the steel trusts support one political party, and the cotton people support another. Here a man gives £40,000 to the Party and gets a baronetcy. If he comes to the leader of the Party and says I subscribe £20,000 to Party funds, you must do this or that, we can tell him to go to the devil". "The worst of it," the premier added, "is that you cannot defend it in public. . . . And because he could not publicly defend the honours auction Lloyd George was careful to remain ignorant of the details, so that if the need arose he could wrap himself in a white sheet and swear that he was innocent.

The £2m secret fund that resulted almost entirely through the sale of honours, was described by A. G. Gardiner, editor of the *Liberal Daily News*, as "an impertin in *imperio*, as sinister and disruptive in its possibilities as it is unprecedented. The Coalition Liberal Chief Whip, Lord Fiddly Guest, a cousin of Winston Churchill, was the fund's architect; and he in turn employed Maundy Gregory much as "a sportsman employs a retriever to do his dog's game into the bag", in the words of Sir Colin Coote, one-time Coalition Liberal MP for the Isle of Ely, later managing editor of the *Daily Telegraph*. Head gamekeeper might be a more apt comparison. Unfortunately, Freddy Guest was none too particular what sort of game it was, with the result that Gregory, who was given the utmost latitude in his wheeling and dealing, bagged some very strange birds indeed.

In the early Twenties Gregory's clients were the hard-faced men whom Baldwin said looked as though they had done well out of the war. It was not necessary to tout for custom. The clients beat a path to the door of Gregory's offices at 38 Parliament Street, where the man who had failed as an actor gave a magnificent performance. Maundy Gregory had filled out considerably since his hectic years in the theatre; the hairline had receded, the pug nose acquired a rubicund hue. In later years Gregory used an Elizabeth Arden preparation called "Shine Off" to keep it toned down. A rather disolute-looking cardinal, one might have said of the honours broker as he sat at his desk in a high-backed, scarlet leather chair. Gregory was always beautifully dressed with a black pearl tiepin, or jewelled cufflinks to add a touch of elegance. Gregory used to pin the galley proofs containing the *Whitehall Gazette's* table of contents together, and whenever a visitor came he announced he would unroll this scroll and pretend to be correcting it with a fountain pen which had a 22-carat chiselpoint nib. The scroll was as bogus as many of the other furnishings of Gregory's office—the signed portraits, the royal silver frames, the gold cigarette box with the arms of King George II of Greece picked out in diamonds on its lid, the indication of a Conservative: J. C. Davidson's *Memoirs* and *Papers*, 1910-37.

than 49 honours were earmarked by Lloyd George for proprietors, principal shareholders, editors, and managing directors of newspapers. Thus were "whole groups of newspapers . . . deprived of any real independence," according to the Duke of Northumberland, who was active in exposing the honours racket. As for Lloyd George's beloved Wales, Cardiff had so many honours showered on it that it became known as "the city of dreadful knights." The most damning verdict came from *The Banker*, a financial journal not given ordinarily to driving the money-changers from the temple. After describing Lloyd George's honours recommendations as being "blatant unto notoriety," *The Banker* had this to say: "Many are gross litterate profiteers, created baronets and knights, merely upon the strength of the money they had obtained in preying upon England in the most awful crisis of her history."

None of these self-made men would admit that it was he who sought the neighbourhood or the baronetcy. No, it was always "the little woman." "The missus thinks that the title 'Sir' would look nice on the firm's letterhead," the industrialist would explain. "Help business along, you know." And Gregory, whose job it was to ease his clients over the awkward burles, would nod sympathetically and work the conversation round to payment. Such matters had to be arranged, he would explain. "Sinecure of war" would be necessary in order to force certain doors, he would add, using a euphemism beloved of politicians. Not to put too fine a point on it, £10,000 would swing the deal in the neighbourhood, but if the client could make it £12,000 the recommendation would go through faster.

A barony, of course, was pricier because it could be handed from father to son. A barony which Maundy Gregory had a hand in was that bestowed in June, 1922 on Sir Joseph Robinson, aged 82, a pioneer of the Rand goldfields. Robinson, who earlier had been a retired trader and fined £500,000 by the South African Supreme Court, was an old friend of Gregory's. A portrait of Sir Joseph in a frock coat had appeared in *Mayfair* as No. 78 in the "Men of the Day" Head gamekeeper might be a more apt comparison. Unfortunately, Freddy Guest was none too particular what sort of game it was, with the result that Gregory, who was given the utmost latitude in his wheeling and dealing, bagged some very strange birds indeed.

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of Abuses Act became law. This made the sale of honours a criminal offence punishable by a term of imprisonment not exceeding two years, or a fine not exceeding £500, or both. Gregory was to continue to sell honours, but on a greatly diminished scale. More often than not he took money for honours he could not deliver, feeling safe in the knowledge that those whom he had defrauded were not likely to sue (the new law made both buyer and seller guilty). The new law also forced Gregory to diversify his interests.

Among Gregory's new acquisitions was the Ambassador Club at 27 Conduit Street (now the home of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours) where the Prince of Wales was a frequent guest. The Ambassador Club served as a show-case where Gregory could entertain prospective clients in style, while being seen by these to be hobnobbing with celebrities on terms of intimacy. It also served as a listening post where Gregory could pick up snippets of information of use to him as a political fixer. Most of those who feasted with the panther at the Ambassador Club were like tethered goats; but even the sheep among them must have

realized that by being seen dining with Gregory they were putting their reputations at risk.

Agreeing with Henry of Navarre that Paris was indeed worth a Mass, Gregory underwent a conversion to Catholicism in the early thirties, and thereafter did a brisk business in Papal honours, notably those of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, of which he became Grand Cross.

But it was a question of too little, too late. By the early thirties the war of attrition begun by Stanley Baldwin against Gregory was making itself felt (the Conservative Central Office went so far as to plant a spy in Gregory's camp to make sure that none of the names the latter put forward as candidates for honours ever appeared on an Honours List). Finding himself in desperate financial straits, Gregory made the mistake of offering a knight-hood for £10,000 to a retired naval commander whose probity was such that the honours broker in palmy days would never dared to have approach him. It was *The Phantom of the Opera* all over again, with Gregory

losing his head and throwing the mains switch.

The commander complained, Gregory was summoned for contravening the 1925 Act, pleaded guilty, and on February 21, 1933, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment plus a £50 fine. The day he was released from Wormwood Scrubs he left England never to return. For the eight remaining years of his life he lived in France as a remittance man, a regular stipend being paid to him by a group of former clients who had clubbed together to buy his silence. Caught in France at the outbreak of the last war, Gregory was taken prisoner by the Germans, died of a "cardiac insufficiency" (the withdrawal of electricity from his diet killed him according to a close friend) in a German military hospital in Paris on September 28, 1941. All that was found on him were some letters, a rascally, and an ocarina, this man who "loved visible things" with something between the zest of the parvenu and the joy of the artist", in the words of A. J. A. Symonds.

Tom Cullen's Maundy Gregory: Purveyor of Honours will be published by the Bodley Head on Thursday, at £3.

©Tom Cullen 1974

Arthur John Peter Michael Maundy Gregory







SOUTH BANK CONCERT HALLS

Table listing concert events at South Bank Concert Halls, including Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, and Purcell Room, with dates and program details.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Table listing concert events at Queen Elizabeth Hall, including various orchestras and solo performances.

Gloucester August 18-23 THREE CHOIRS FESTIVAL. Brochure available. Festival Office, Community House, College Green, Gloucester GL1 2LX.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL Kensington, SW7 2AP

TOMORROW at 7.30 BEETHOVEN. Program includes Egmont Overture, Emperor Piano Concerto, Leonora Overture No. 3, and Symphony No. 5 in C minor. London Symphony Orchestra, Yoav Talmi, Shura Cherkassky.

ENGLISH BACH FESTIVAL SUNDAY 12 MAY at 6 p.m. BACH: ST MATTHEW PASSION. Conducted by Paul Steinitz.

LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI NEW PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA. Program includes Merry Waltz, Taffis Fantasia, Rapsodie Espagnole, and Symphony No. 4.

MASSED BANDS SPECTACULAR. Program includes The Battle of Waterloo (with cannon and musketry) and Verdi Requiem.

TCHAIKOVSKY Overture "1812" and 2 Military Bands. Program includes Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty, and other works.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL. Program includes Overture, Fingal's Cave, and other works by Mendelssohn and Beethoven.

ADRIANA LECOUVREUR MONTSERRAT CABALLE JOSÉ CARRERAS. Program includes Overture, Fingal's Cave, and other works.

NEW PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA STANLEY POPE. Program includes Overture, Fingal's Cave, and other works.

ENGLISH BACH FESTIVAL. Program includes Overture, Fingal's Cave, and other works.

György Ligeti Hand and Rössini. Program includes Overture, Fingal's Cave, and other works.

POLYPHONIA EXOTICA! MOZART'S 'Turkish' Violin Concerto in A K219. Program includes other works by Mozart and Beethoven.

BÁLINT VÁZSONYI piano. Program includes Overture, Fingal's Cave, and other works.

BIRMINGHAM SINFONIETTA. Program includes Overture, Fingal's Cave, and other works.

The listener at Speaker's corner

Heathcote Williams styles himself a paradigm. He believes that some people never left the Garden of Eden and that we all have guardian angels unless we trade them for angels of death. He paints slogans on the walls in his street proclaiming the new Albion Free State and the day I saw him he had been hacking at the pavement with a pick-axe, wanting to plant a hedge.



Heathcote Williams listens to an ICA orator.

Tea and tensions

Next of Kin National are a representative product of their environment: but the curious thing is that, no matter how typical their lives, they come across as special to the point of eccentricity.

A let-down send-up

Really Raquel BBC 2. There was a moment last night when you know how transcendental visions burst upon you sometimes when the scales are momentarily lifted, when you see with a clarity to which a mere mortal seems hardly entitled.

Royal Academy Summer Exhibition Burlington House

William Gaunt. Even more than in recent years the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition is something of everything. The 1,373 works shown run the gamut of most of the styles, materials and techniques in present use.

'The Working of the National Gallery'

On Friday, May 10, the National Gallery will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its foundation by the opening of an exhibition.

Hamburg State Opera's new productions

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Gardening Better safe than sorry

Many of my friends are experimenting with the technique of growing tomatoes, cucumbers and other plants in the plastic Gro-bags I described several weeks ago.

Chess Sporting chance In its euphoria the other month about our famous victory over the West Germans in the match at Eltham Hall...

Bridge Star bidding If ever I were invited (which Heaven forbid) to Award an Oscar for my performance at the card-table I would nominate the anonymous hero of a saga in the January number of the Brides Magazine...

Chess board diagram showing a game in progress with pieces labeled with letters and numbers.

from her overseas "wing" we will warn her to keep well away from them. The British Red Cross Society has published its 1974 guide to gardens open in aid of the charity on one day a year.

Chess Cleverly winning a pawn but stupidly imperilling the whole game. Best was P... QxK2, 10. P-K3, Q-K2, 11. P-Q4, threatening B-Q3.

Bridge West led a heart ruffed by declarer who with the drop of the 4J and the 4K made the contract. The opponents protested the score because "North had studied for nearly a minute before doubling Five Hearts".

Chess The OP cannot be protected; If 18... B-B3; 19. P-K5, or if 18... B-B1; 19. P-P4.

ENTERTAINMENTS ALSO ON PAGES 8 and 9

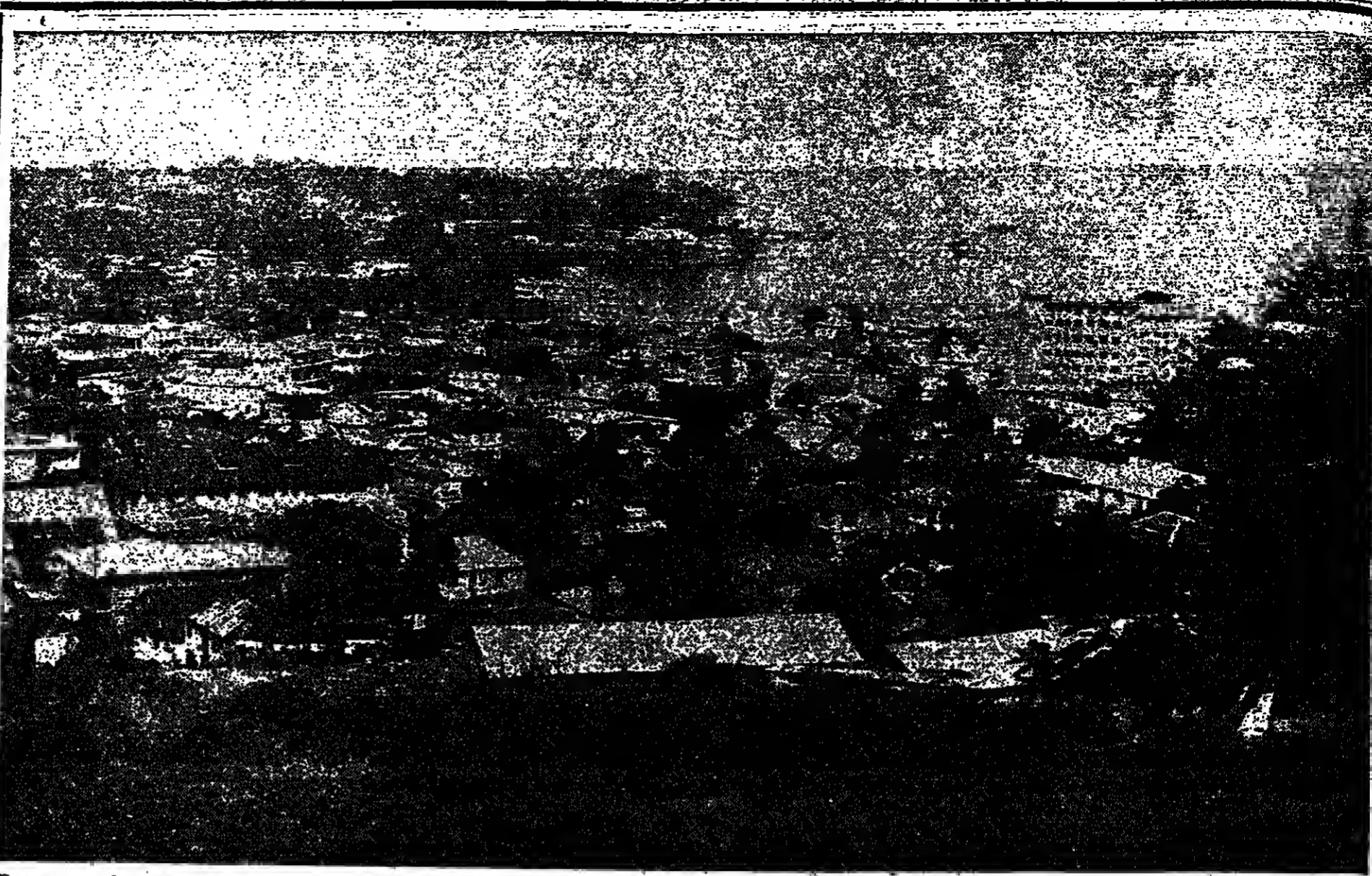
THEATRES ART EXHIBITIONS BRITISH MUSEUM COLONAGERS A SURVEY OF BRITISH PAINTS 1880-1900 COMMONWEALTH ART GALLERY







Handwritten note in Arabic script at the top right of the page.



Freetown: an important project is the road being built between the Sierra Leone capital and Monrovia in Liberia.

### Multinational bodies give small countries a bigger voice

by Godfrey Morrison  
editor,  
*Africa Confidential*

Sierra Leone pursues a conventional policy of non-alignment in foreign affairs. This is well illustrated by the fact that of its relations with major non-African states the most cordial at present are those with Britain and China.

Like most small states Sierra Leone places great value on its membership of multinational bodies such as the Organisation of African Unity, the United Nations, the Commonwealth and the non-aligned groupings, both because of the material benefits that these associations can bring and because through them the Government can make its voice heard in the world.

President Stevens and Mr Desmond Luke, his Foreign Minister, were both present at the Ottawa meeting of Commonwealth leaders, for example, and both found it a useful occasion. Mr Luke told me that the conference had helped to make the Commonwealth "a reasonable association" in the world of today and that the frank and intimate debates had brought new life to it.

Mr Luke said also that the Commonwealth and the non-aligned groupings were of particular importance now that so much in international politics was decided by the super-powers. In saying this he echoed a cry one hears throughout Africa and the Third World: "Individually our voices are too small and the super-powers will take no notice of us unless we get together."

Of particular importance in Sierra Leone's foreign policy are relations with its immediate northern and southern neighbours, Guinea and Liberia. Relations with Guinea have had a direct bearing on the country's domestic politics in recent years. During the period of military rule President Stevens lived for some time in exile and developed cordial relations in Conakry with Guinea's left-wing President, Mr Sekou Touré.

When he came to power but could not trust his own turbulent army, Dr Stevens was supplied with a detachment of Guinea troops to guarantee his personal security. There is a defence agreement between the two countries and still much coming and going between Freetown and Conakry. However, the Guinea troops left at the time of last year's elections and there are indications that relations may now be slightly less close than they were.

One of the problems is that Mr Sekou Touré, true to his revolutionary beliefs, has taken what many Sierra Leoneans feel is rather too close an interest in their domestic politics. Moreover the ideological gulf between the two governments is wide and has been openly acknowledged at the top.

In practical cooperation, too, a number of difficulties present themselves: not the least of these is Guinea's chronic foreign exchange position, which for the present rules out any ambitious trade arrangements between the two countries.

Official spokesmen for the Sierra Leone Government profess that relations with Guinea are as good as ever, but one suspects they do so out of loyalty to President Sekou Touré, who gave such valuable support in the past. It is hard to imagine that Freetown welcomed Guinea's attempts to involve Sierra Leone in its recent running quarrel with Senegal and Ivory Coast (which it accused of plotting with the French the overthrow of President Sekou Touré's Government).

That the Sierra Leone Government was pleased by Guinea Radio's allegations that the French Embassy in Freetown was a centre of anti-Touré subversion. On Mr Sekou Touré's side there are reports that he is disappointed by the lack of revolutionary fervour of President Stevens's regime.

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Relations with the Soviet Union have not been so enthusiastic, presumably because the Russians have never been particularly forthcoming with aid, but also because of admiration for the way the Chinese have gone about solving their economic problems, particularly in food production. This is something that Dr Stevens's Government feel is more easily emulated by a country such as theirs than are the impressive but different achievements of the Russians.

Our relations with Britain are as good as ever. We have always had extremely close ties. But trade with Britain is not on the increase; not the least of the reasons are Britain's problems. He added: "We are disappointed about the differences of view over Rhodesia. Britain is still in a unique position to solve this unfortunate problem."

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Diamonds are not forever so economy must be diversified quickly

Viewed in the medium term the central problem of Sierra Leone's economy is whether diversification, particularly into agriculture, can take place rapidly enough before the country's present main source of wealth, diamonds, begins to decline seriously.

Although the country's economy does not present particularly rosy prospects at the moment, the encouraging factor is the growing awareness in government circles of a long-term plan to come about that diamonds are a rapidly wasting asset and that the problem of finding new sources of employment, foreign exchange and government revenue is becoming urgent.

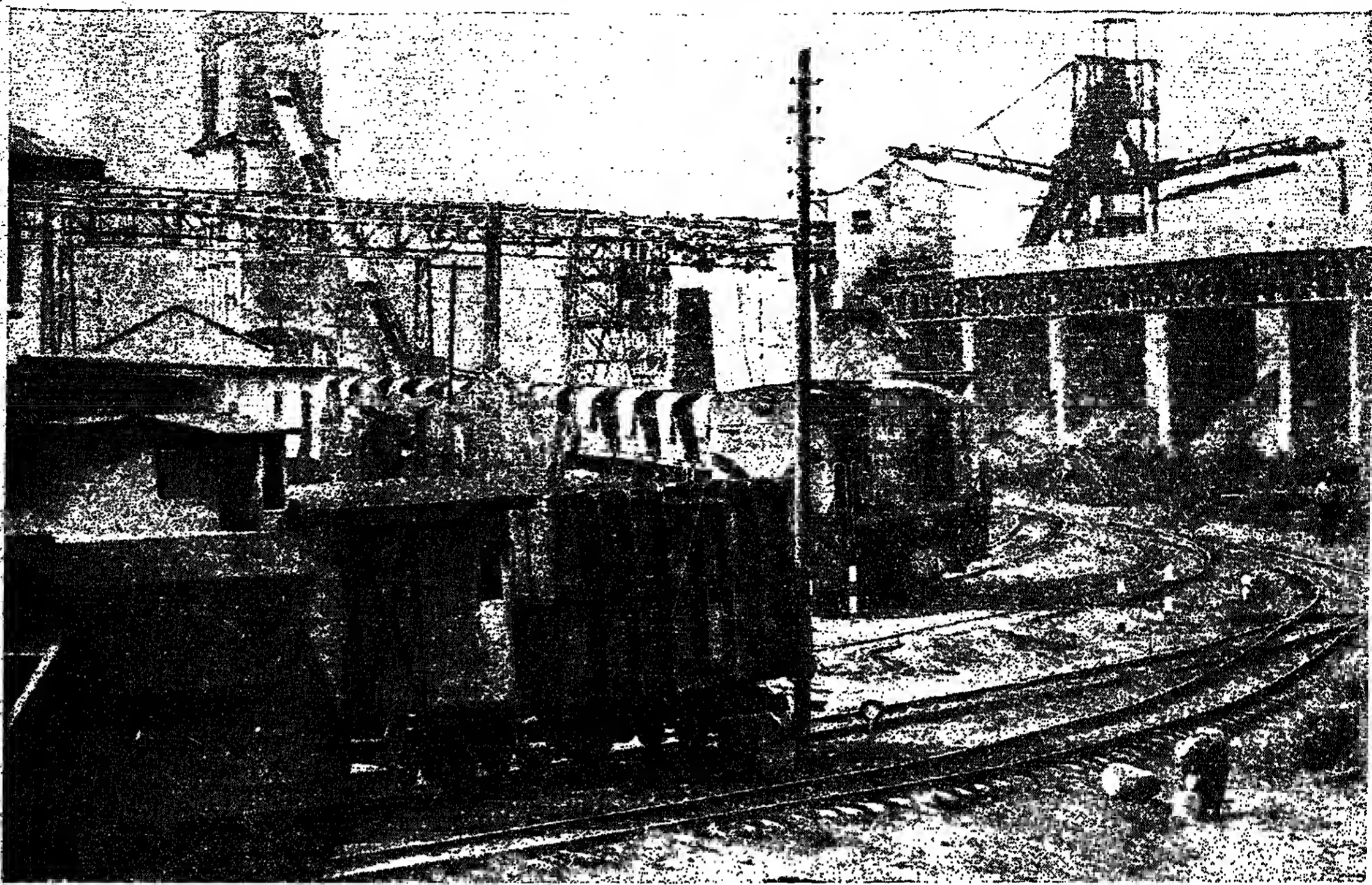
The four main Sierra Leone diamond deposits, which account for about 60 per cent of export earnings and a huge chunk of the Government's domestic revenues, have been the curse of the country's economy. Their existence has enabled successive governments to survive without paying proper attention to the agricultural sector, in which most of the country's population is engaged.

Moreover, because of the huge revenues available from smuggling and other malpractices, many observers believe that the existence of the diamonds has been a major factor in encouraging corruption, which has proved a persistent and intractable problem for all the regimes, which have ruled the country since independence.

Sierra Leone used to suffer from large foreign trade deficits but these have been narrowing thanks to better export prices for all products, particularly minerals. In the first 10 months of 1973, exports rose sharply from 78m leones (£39m) in the corresponding period in 1972 to 102m leones.

At the end of October the foreign reserves stood at 32m leones, compared with 32m a year earlier. Just how bad the effects of the past six months' oil price increases will be is difficult to say.

Mr S. L. Bangura, the Governor of the Bank of Sierra Leone, recently confirmed these fears and the need for caution. In a review of the economy he placed particular emphasis on the effect of external forces over which his country had no control.



The railway which takes iron ore from Marampa to Pepel.

The Government's official goal is self-sufficiency in rice. This will probably take some time since efforts to teach the swamp rice technique needed by the new high-yield strains have not yet been successful. Because of the foreign policy the Government to exceed its current expenditure estimates the effects could be serious indeed.

The Government's official goal is self-sufficiency in rice. This will probably take some time since efforts to teach the swamp rice technique needed by the new high-yield strains have not yet been successful.

two-thirds of Sierra Leone's exports and accounting in most years for about a quarter of the country's imports. The tendency, however, has been for diversification of trade. It should also be noted that most diamond exports go to the Central Selling Organization in London, from where they are mostly re-exported to third countries.

President Stevens's Government has pursued a fairly cautious and moderate economic policy in ideological terms. An earlier decision to seek majority government participation in all mining activities, including the country's iron ore producer, Sierra Leone Development Corporation, Delco.

to a great extent on arrangements made in the coming years for cooperation with neighbouring countries and with the world's large trading blocks such as the European Economic Community.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

We are advancing with confidence. by His Excellency the President, Dr. Siaka P. Stevens

SIERRA LEONE, like every new nation, encountered many difficulties after independence. Even at independence itself, many of our All Peoples Congress leaders were jailed for demanding the right of the people to elect their own parliament before independence.

We were left with a large trade deficit, heavy debts, political and administrative chaos, and a country whose economy was in a state of collapse.

the skills and capital not yet acquired by a sufficient number of our own people. control of our wealth must rest in the hands of a nation healthy, literate, well-fed, fitted to make a better country for our children.

Investment opportunities. FOREIGN investors can rest assured that their interests will always receive adequate protection, declared President Stevens in his speech at the State Opening of Parliament on 22 June, 1973.

connected with agricultural development. Foreign investment is largely governed by the Sierra Leone Development Act. Under this development certificate are granted.

For further information please contact the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Freetown, Republic of Sierra Leone. Cables: Minterd Freetown







# Shadow of colonialism hangs over inadequate educational system

Simon Scott Plummer

In 1827 the Anglican Church Missionary Society (CMS) opened a teacher training college at Fourah Bay in Freetown, the first institution of higher education in West Africa. In 1845 it established a secondary school for boys and four years later, one for girls. In 1876 Fourah Bay College was affiliated to Durham University and took on the status of a university college. The first degrees were awarded in 1879.

These were the landmarks of a period of outstanding educational achievement in Sierra Leone. The Creoles, who were its main beneficiaries, formed the vanguard of a new professional class in West Africa and were in demand as administrators throughout British territories in that area. Freetown came to be known as the "Sierra Leone of the West Indies". Much water has flowed under the bridge since the heyday of Creole civilization. Today the successes of that age appear more as burdens and a source of inspiration to the professor in Freetown who of the "terrible heritage of Durham" and said at Sierra Leone, in resting his laurels, had allowed himself to be outstripped by Ghana and Nigeria.

In referring to Durham the professor was acknowledging the inadequacy of the educational system in meeting Sierra Leone's needs since independence in 1961 there has been greater emphasis on science, technical training and agriculture, but a curriculum still largely reflects the thinking of colonial days.

The Government is aware of these shortcomings and has undertaken a review of the educational spectrum, from nursery school to post-graduate work, in conjunction with the University of Sierra Leone. This is the first time that a comprehensive study has been made in the country. It is hoped that the findings will lead to the creation of an integrated system of education which will last Sierra Leone for the rest of this century.

Although publication of the review is not expected until later this year it is not difficult to predict its main areas of concern. Formal education in Sierra Leone reaches fewer than half of the children of school age and more than 80 per cent of the population are illiterate. Even the figures for those attending school—181,000 at primary level, 8,000 at secondary—give a bleakly optimistic picture. A report published in 1970 estimated that 56 per

cent of primary and 45 per cent of secondary pupils did not complete the course.

As far as the concept of education is concerned, it is felt that to see one stage of schooling solely as preparation for the next stage is wrong. It means that pupils who do not make the grade are likely to have difficulty in finding jobs because their education has been entirely academic. According to the 1970 report, 52 per cent of those who complete the seven years at primary school do not go on to secondary school and 83 per cent of those who complete secondary schooling, which lasts from five to seven years, do not enter the university.

It has been suggested that a second educational system could be set up alongside the existing one for those who at present receive no schooling. The two systems would interact from the start and would eventually merge.

At the lowest level the new system would have village nursery centres where children met, played, learnt social cooperation, developed self-expression, received child care and began to read and write. Next there would be community education and training centres with activities which would overlap the primary and secondary strands of the existing system and would be based on practical experience of community development. Finally, adult continuing education centres would overlap the secondary and higher levels of the present system and would concentrate on vocational training.

Another suggestion is for an integrated rural school. In an attempt to get rid of selectivity, the idea of primary and secondary education would give way to that of fundamental education. A first cycle of four years would impart basic intellectual skills enabling pupils either to continue their studies or to pursue their lives in the community. Promotion would be automatic and school attendance compulsory.

The second cycle would be diversified. Courses would last from three months to two years and would be open to children and adults who wanted to specialise in various techniques and branches of knowledge. Employers would contribute to the cost of the school but would also take part in the preparation of courses, and in evaluating the results.

The schools would be financed largely by the Government but village communities would contribute in kind to their construction and equipment. Students would spend half their time



Two styles of teaching. Left: in a classroom at the National Diamond Mining Company's senior staffs school, at Yengema. Right: al fresco tuition at a secondary school in Freetown.

turn up, an attitude inherited from the colonial schools—Freetown and the western area are much better served than the interior—to abolish tuition fees and to provide universal education at primary level.

A major obstacle to reaching these goals is lack of money. Sierra Leone already devotes 22 per cent of its budget to education and that proportion is unlikely to rise in the near future. It will therefore have to call on our side aid, such as the loan granted by the International Development Association

to provide vocational training facilities in secondary schools.

Another difficulty is that many parents want their children as the means of securing good jobs in government or industry and look down on technical training.

Then there is the task of persuading the university to had made little impact on rural life.

However, the demand for new forms of education is stronger than the objections to it. An outstanding pointer

to what is required is the YWCA vocational institute and so on; fashion; cookery and nutrition; and retail studies (salesmanship, window display). At the end of the fourth year they take formal educational system. Pupils undertake a five-year course which trains them. Miss Shirley Scott-Boyle, the principal, said that one staff member put it bluntly: "for the market".

After three years of pre-vocational training during the past five years. Once the following choice of specialisation for the final two schools began for pupils: business studies; creative studies (embroid-

ery, arts and crafts, knitting, and so on); fashion; cookery and nutrition; and retail studies (salesmanship, window display). At the end of the fourth year they take formal educational system. Pupils undertake a five-year course which trains them. Miss Shirley Scott-Boyle, the principal, said that one staff member put it bluntly: "for the market".

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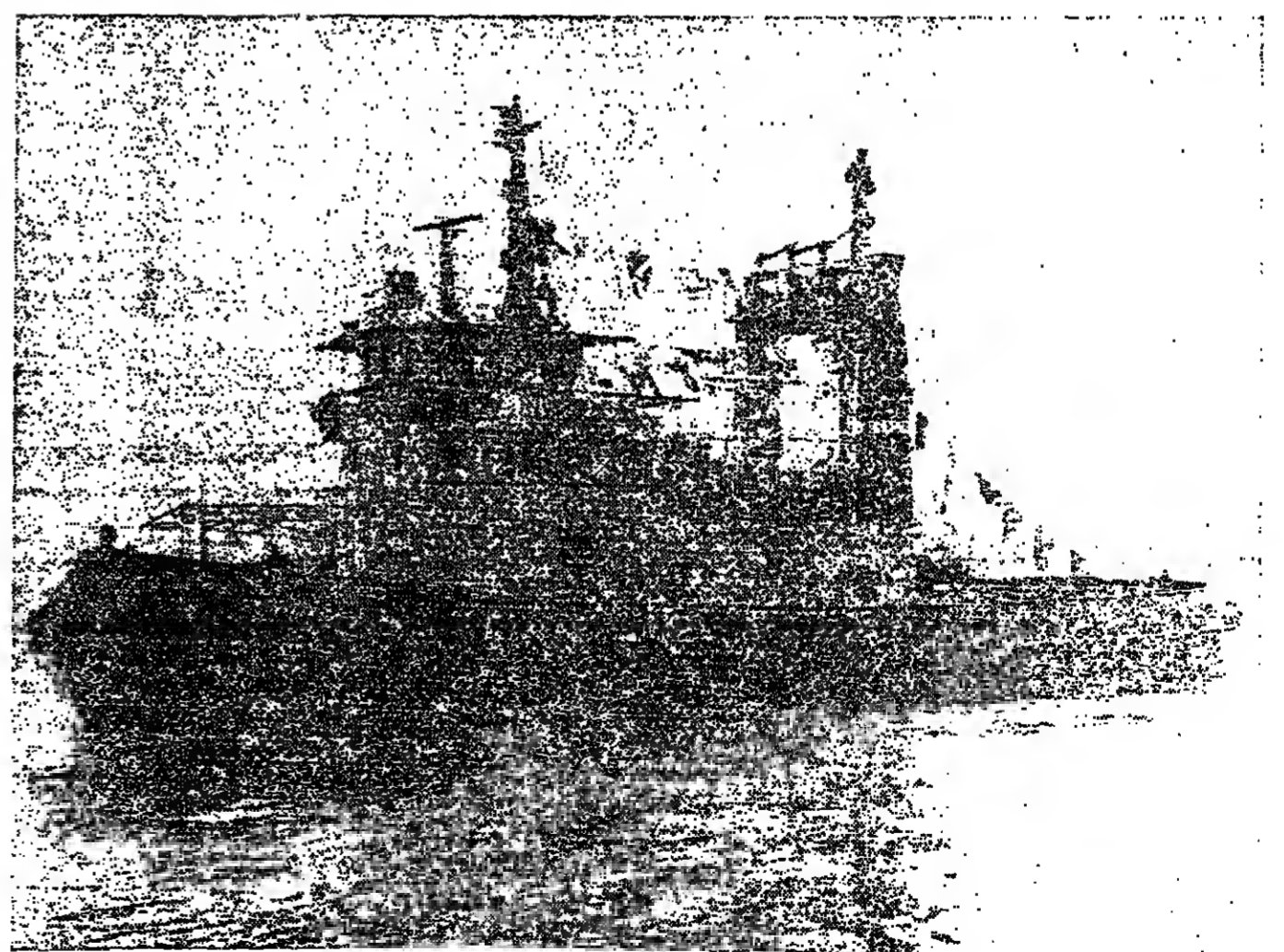
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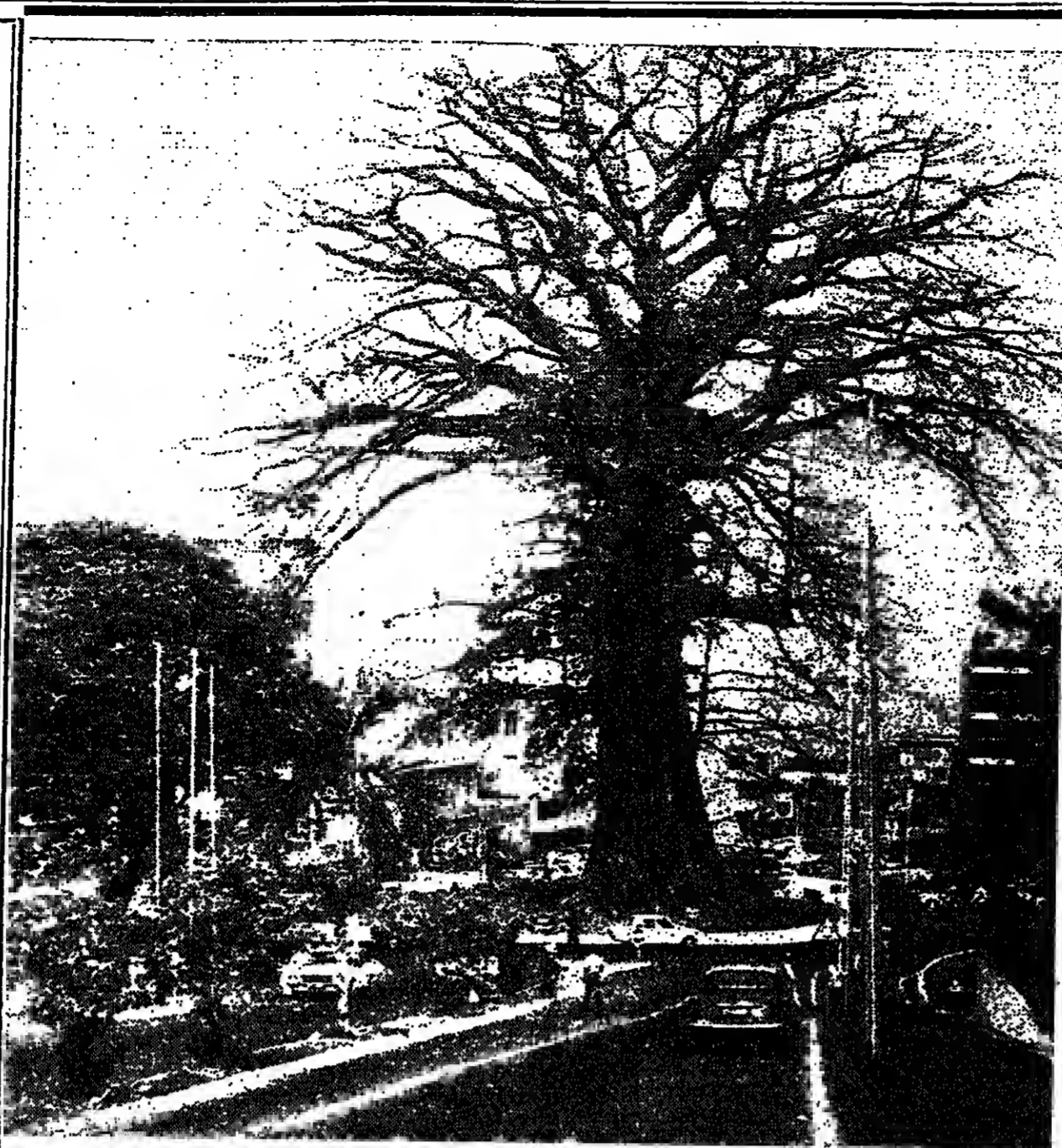
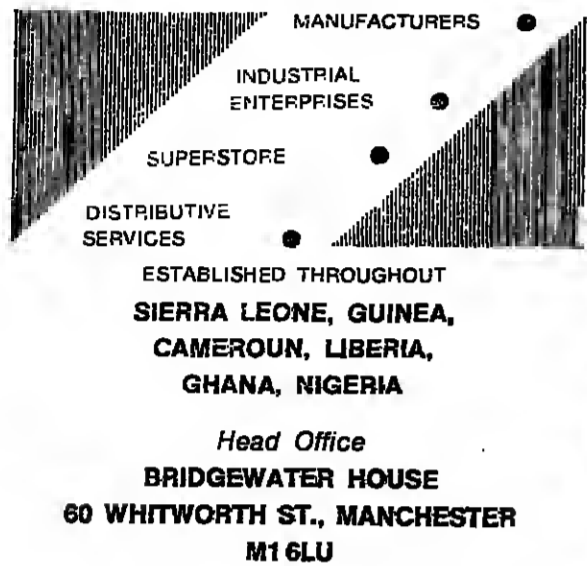
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A cotton tree in the centre of Freetown. Right: a dancer of the Karkaderil secret society. Top: the engine room at a power station in Freetown.

Literary amateurs build reputation largely through non-fiction

by Eldred Durnsini Jones Sierra Leone has had a long tradition of writing in English but much of this has been of non-fictional works. Africanus Beale Horton's Medical Topography of the West Coast of Africa, Physical and Medical Climate and Meteorology of the West Coast of Africa, West African Countries and Peoples and A Vindication of the African Race, all published in the late 1860s, indicated the general trend that later writing was to follow. Davidson Nicol, a Sierra Leonean writer of this generation, and also a doctor, has edited an anthology of Horton's work. The 1860s also saw the appearance of A. B. C. Sibthorpe's pioneering Geography and History of Sierra Leone.

The line of non-fictional writers stretches down to more recent times with works such as T. S. Johnson's Story of a Mission in the History of the Sierra Leone Church. Arthur Porter's Creoleadon, Davidson Nicol's Africa: A Subjective View, William Conton's History of West Africa, Bankole Timothy's Kwame Nkrumah, E. L. Sumner's History of Education in Sierra Leone, and Harry Sawyer's (with W. T. Harris) Springs of Mende Belief and Custom.

fiction, but these early stories exhibit a careful observation of various aspects of life in the colonial era and an equally careful prose style full of subtle ironies, quiet humour and more than a hint of social satire. They show, in settings as varied as secondary schools, elite households, outposts of government and humble urban domestic hearths, how the British imperialist and Victorian missionary moralities combined to produce repressions, inhibitions and tensions so that an African judge's starchiness and preoccupation with the pursuit of a knighthood led to his son's suicide in "The Judge's Son".

The local scene through his spirited, often slashing, articles on public affairs in The Daily Mail and We Yone. These have made him a national figure and a dominant voice in Sierra Leone's recent and sometimes troubled history. His prose style is an almost Edwardian flavour and his plots make no concessions to modish narrative techniques. His descriptions of people and places are often elaborate and carefully constructed. He is possibly the most dedicated present Sierra Leonean writer, considering the amount of time he has spent writing, but he is also probably the most unlucky with publishers.

William Conton's The African (1959) was fairly early in the spate of African novels and was one of the earliest expressions of the African political dream. Its hero, Kisiiri Kamara, born in one part of the country and educated in the other, seeks to pull both together as he rises to become Prime Minister. The hero's decision to renounce his hard-won eminence to fight apartheid is single-handedly heroic but Conton uses the gesture as a symbol of selflessness and structurally as the means of facing his hero with his basic humanity which even apartheid could not erase. Kisiiri Kamara remains a wishful embodiment of an idealized form of politics which subsequent performance renders wryly ironic.

Robert Wellesley-Cole is another of Sierra Leone's doctor writers. His very evocative Kossuh Town Boy describes a childhood in the east end of Freetown with a fidelity and assurance that make it into a little classic. It quickly became a favourite school text, but its fascination is by no means confined to the young. Many years ago Wellesley-Cole wrote a Krio vignette, "A lek you for you bo-jey" which showed the potentialities of Krio as a literary medium, but he does not seem to have followed up this essay into Krio poetry. For that one must turn to

All in all, Sierra Leoneans do not seem to have trusted their reputation to fiction. As literary amateurs, the word is used in the best sense, they have shown talent, but the country's first successful professional writer is yet to come. If there were local outlets where budding writers could first try out their skills (as there are, say, Nigeria) he might be the sooner. The author is Professor Head of the Department of English, Fourah Bay College, Freetown. He is Visiting Fellow at the University of Canterbury.

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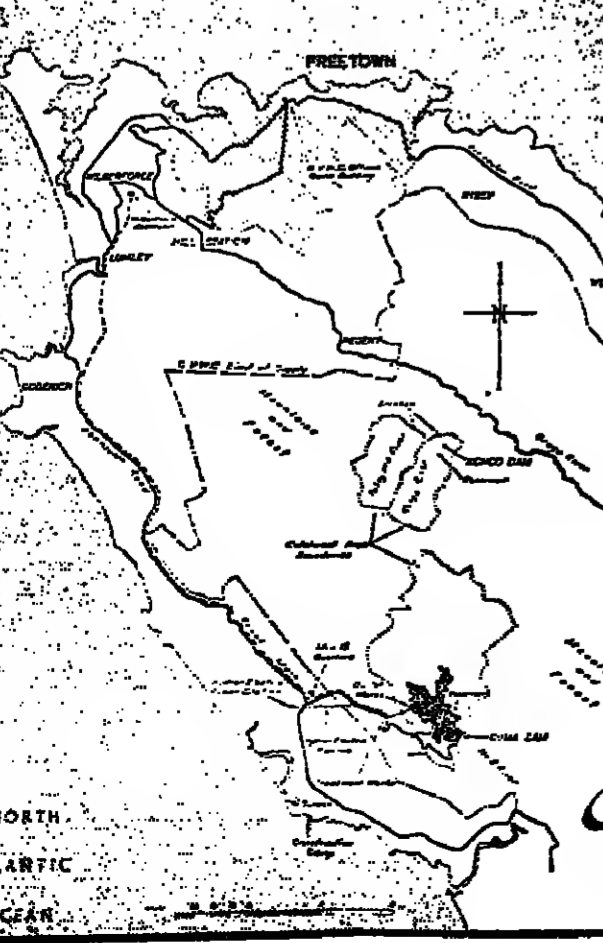
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THE RODU Palm kern

# Wildlife is still present—but you have to search for it

**Cooffrey Field**

Sierra Leone straddles two vegetation zones, the Guinea savanna and the forest, and lies in its zoological transition. Situated in the northernmost corner of Africa, the end of a corridor of land between desert and sea, it is inevitably poorer in species, particularly large mammals, than East Africa. The relatively dense human population means less suitable animal habitats. Some of the typically African mammals are absent, but they have to be searched for. Elephants have been exceptionally wanderers in the north all this century, and leopards, once widespread, are now an object of interest. When reports of elephants are found in the north-west, they are elephants both in the dry forest and in the remotest parts of the east. Buffaloes are called bushcows and are widespread, but hunters say the size of the herds has declined by anything up to 50 per cent over the past 30 years, and waterbuck, a rarer species, show a similar decline. Kobs are now confined to a northern area, but hushies are common and so are the smaller duikers. Rhinos are found in the north and red river hogs in the south. Baboon troops frequent the mountains and reter savanna woodlands, but the large red patas monkey can be a menace to important crops.

Meat is a staple food throughout the country, though non-hunting reserves have been established under the authority of the Forestry Department there is little money to provide supervision to make these effective. Meanwhile there is a steady drain on the larger species.

As with mammals, so there are few concentrations of large and spectacular birds. Large vultures are found occasionally in the north but only big savanna raptors are widespread in the mountains and it is confined to mountainous areas. Some water swamps and river mouths hold flocks of waterfowl: pelicans, spoonbills, like masses of herons, red ibises and the large clumsy spurwing geese. A pygmy goose, smaller than a teal, inhabits lily-ponds and the white-edged tree-duck is abundant; few European ducks exist. Scattered garganey are common in the swamps, though flocks of European ducks winter along the rivers. As the rivers run low at the end of the dry season the

sandbanks are used for nesting by plovers, pratincoles and skimmers, large tern-like birds which feed by skimming the surface of the water. The lower mandible is immersed. The rivers also hold manatees, those strange, entirely aquatic mammals which are decreasing rapidly because of their highly prized meat. Crocodiles are found both in the mangrove mud and inland swamps but they are usually decaying as victims when possible by the local river bank inhabitants. Monitor lizards are also common along rivers; when unmolested they are capable of growing to enormous size but they, too, are regularly taken for food.

The savanna may be less interesting than the savanna of East Africa but the forest is what attracts the zoologist. Inevitably the area of true high forest is shrinking as more and more is opened up for commercial development. The forest stretched across the entire southern half of Sierra Leone before the great era of destruction, the early years of the nineteenth century. Now only fragments remain, and the various conservation bodies of the wealthier countries might consider, if they want the botanical and zoological riches of the forest preserved, what they can contribute to compensate for the loss of immediate revenue implied by conservation.

The oldest and wildest forests are in the south and east near the Liberian border, but Freetown itself has on its doorstep a range of forested hills which, despite illegal hunting, still possess many of the smaller forest mammals and a wealth of birds.

The most interesting mammal is the pygmy hippopotamus, confined to forest rivers in West Africa, an endangered Red Book species, whose range is already split into pockets by the building of roads and the taking over of forests for agriculture. It lives solitarily and is less aquatic than the common hippopotamus, quickly disappearing into dense vegetation and so difficult to observe.

Another endemic to the West African forests is the royal antelope, only 18in high, probably fairly common in some areas but rarely seen because of its smallness and nocturnal habits. The largest forest antelope is the bongo, fit high, chequered, striped with white. Its status is difficult to determine but it is some forests where it was formerly reported not even

the hunters seem to know it and it is probably extremely rare.

Chimpanzees have adapted themselves better to forest destruction and though their tree-drumming may be heard in deep forest they are more often seen in secondary forest or farm bush. For such large animals they survive remarkably well, but even so the traffic in chimpanzees to zoos takes its toll, as for almost every baby captured the mother has to be killed.

Several monkeys are abundant: though the green monkey of farm bush is a nuisance to farmers, most of the finer species are confined to high forest and do not compete with man for food. These include the diana monkey, beautifully coloured in black, white and red, with a pointed white beard, and the three colobus (or chumbeles) species that feed mainly on young leaves

and white with bare yellow head and black "earphones". It has a long tail and long, strong legs on which it bounds over the rocks on the forest floor. It sounds grotesque but is, in fact, extraordinarily elegant in its nesting habits, too, are peculiar: it builds an open mud cup against an overhanging rock. Confined to forest between Sierra Leone and Ghana, it is vulnerable to forest destruction and, though theoretically protected, is exploited by unscrupulous zoos and egg collectors.

Butterflies are one of the forest delights, especially along streams where the canopy is broken and sunlight can penetrate. Human light here will attract scores of lycaenids and swallowtails and the air, when they are disturbed, becomes a dancing mass of blues, greens and yellows.

The largest West African

butterfly is a swallowtail, *Papilio antiochus*, nearly 10in across, rare but occasionally descending from the treetops to drink at a muddy puddle on a logging trail. Also large and brilliant are members of the genus *Charaxes*, that have been given the exotic names of Roman gods or heroes: *castor*, *pollux*, *hadrianus*, *hermus*, *isidrus*, and others. Though swift-flying they can be studied as they feed on the decaying juices of rotten fruit or animal matter.

As well as all these there are vast numbers of insects, reptiles, amphibians, and so on, many still unknown. I know of one bird undescribed and there could even be small mammals. The forest provides inexhaustible scope for anyone interested in wildlife, be the casual tourist or serious student. But undisturbed forest may remain much longer.



Up country in Sierra Leone: alluvial diamond mining at Kenema, Eastern Province. Right: dyed cotton drying at Makeni, Northern Province.

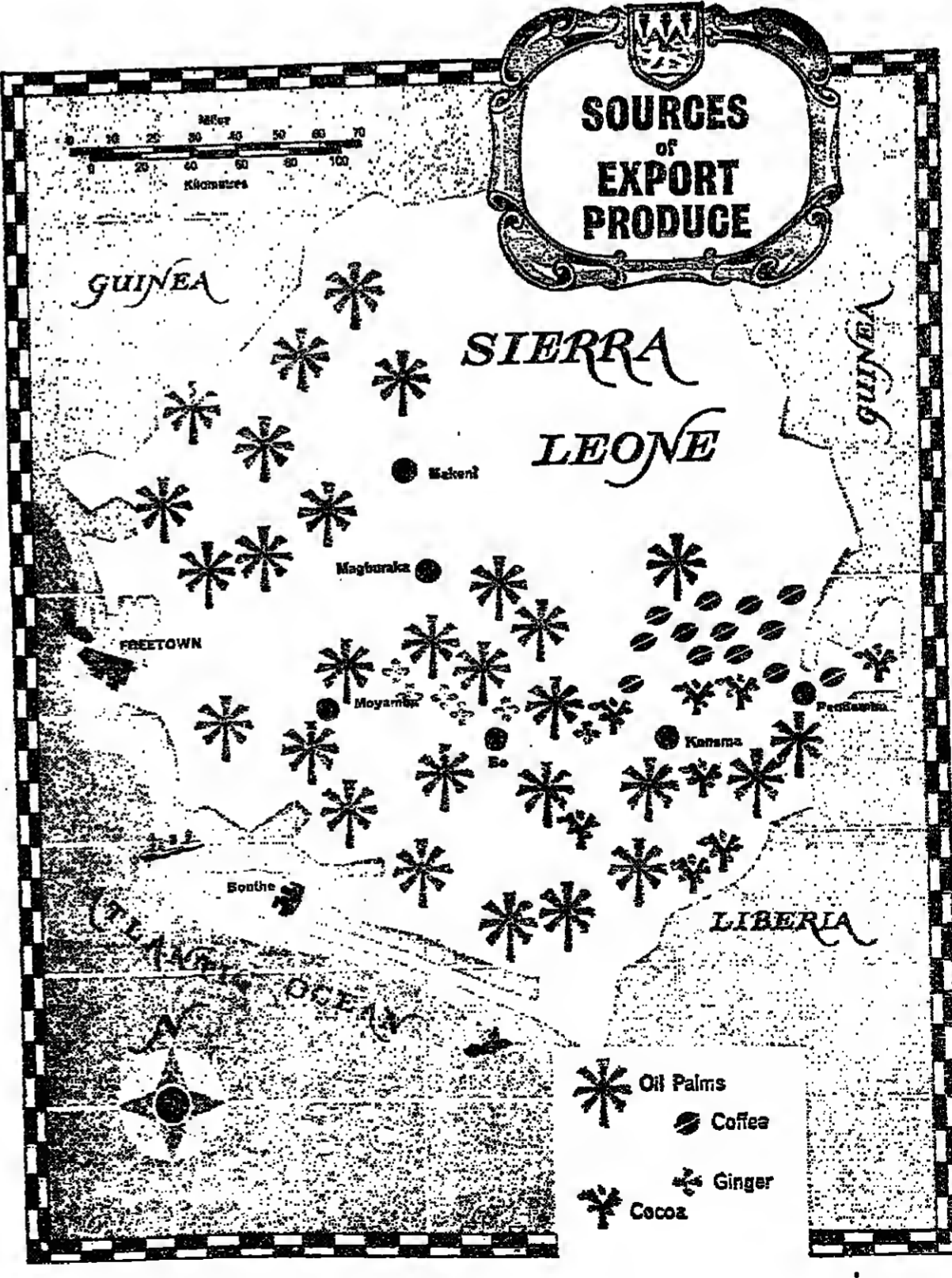


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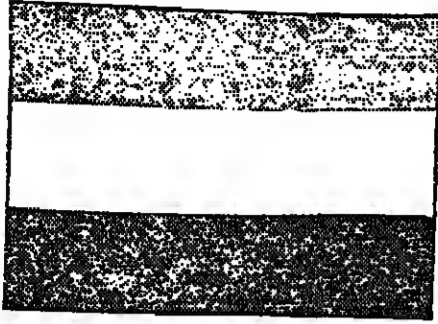
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السواحل الجميلة



# Sierra Leone

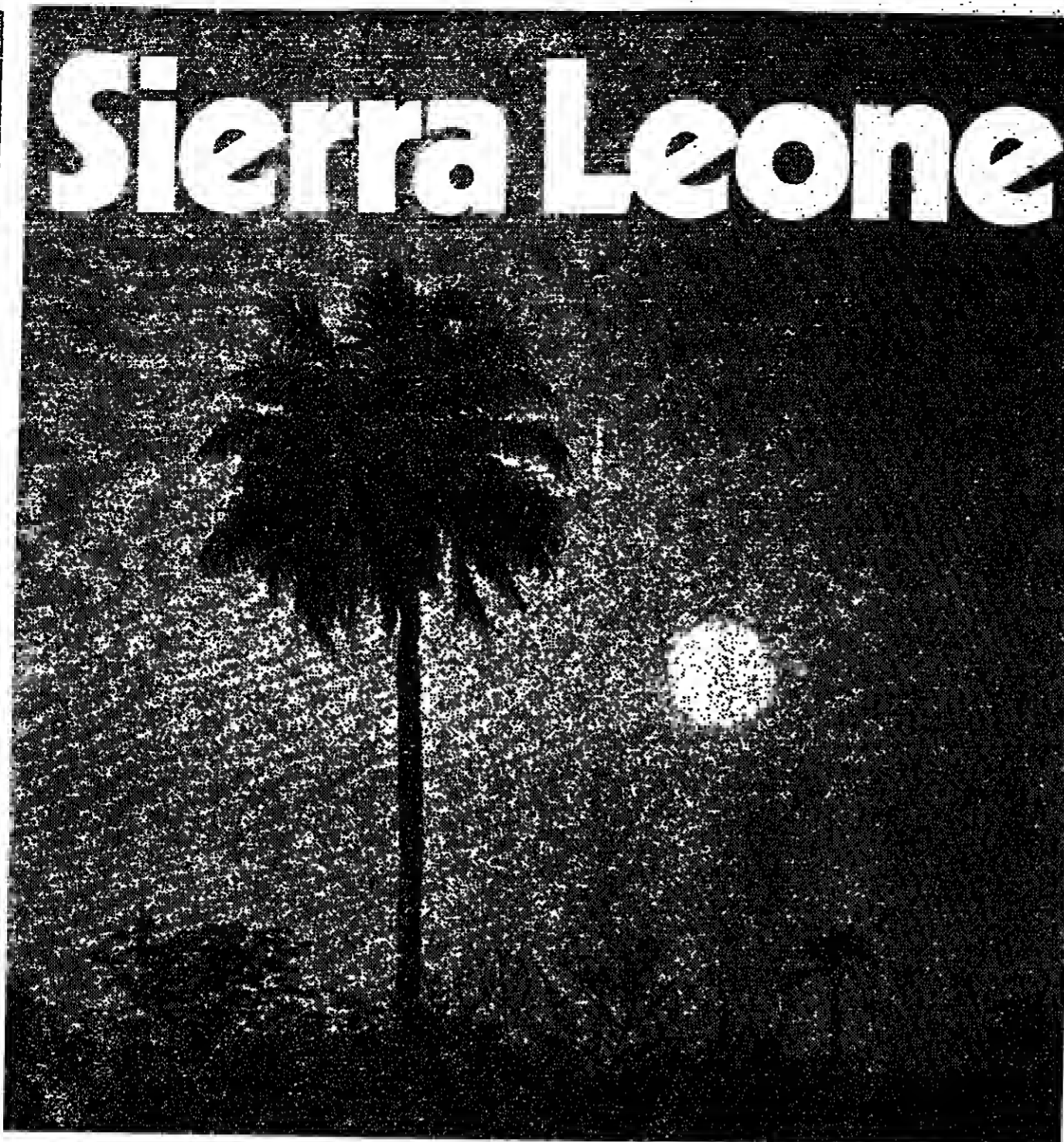
Sierra Leone, the 'mountains of the lion'—so named by early European visitors—is located on Africa's western bulge. The capital of Freetown, a gay, vivacious city and seaport, is situated on a peninsula, 35 miles long and 10 miles wide. The interior of the peninsula is mountainous, rising in parts to over 3,000 feet above sea level.

Lumley Beach, a magnificent palm fringed sweep, is fifteen minutes from Freetown. Freetown Golf Club (18 holes) is located here as well as a number of beach clubs where drinks and refreshments are to hand. Along the thirty mile chain of beaches from Lumley (Cape Sierra Hotel) to Kent there are plenty of opportunities for sailing and surf-  
ing enthusiasts, for diving and spear fishing as well as good deep sea fishing facilities.

One of the oldest cities in West Africa, Freetown was founded in 1787 and enjoys a long and distinguished civic and cultural tradition. Sandwiched between the dark green hills of the peninsula and a deep blue sea, the city contains many important buildings and landmarks of historical interest. These include the De Ryter stone, set up by the Dutch admiral in pursuit of the British in 1664. Other important buildings include the bastions of Fort Thornton constructed between 1792 and 1803 and the old Maroon Church erected in 1820. Freetown also has a small but important museum displaying artifacts and other objects of ethnographic or archaeological interest, particularly the ancient 'Nomoli' or soap stone carvings of human and other figures which have been unearthed in the present Bullom, Mende and Kono country. Also of interest to visitors is the variety of indigenous arts and crafts of a high standard of workmanship. These can be seen at the Arts and Crafts Centre in Freetown and are on sale at a number of craft and curio shops.

Across the river from Freetown, the tourist can visit historic Bunce Island, once a fortress for keeping slaves before despatching them to the 'New World'. Off Banana Island there are little explored wrecks of trading ships which date back to the 17th century.

In Freetown old wooden framed 18th century houses exist side by side with the ultra-modern buildings of an economy based largely on diamonds and iron ore. Readers of Graham Greene will still find the City Hotel he pictured in 'The Heart of the Matter'. Much else, though, has been caught up in a whirlwind of change that lends colour and variety to this unique West African city. The famous 300-year-old landmark, the Cotton Tree, still stands at the centre of the city. It is a city that oozes together people from the entire country and is an expanding, sophisticated and friendly society.



Nature has been kind to Sierra Leone—beautiful beaches, blue lagoons, an endless panorama of rolling hills and forests. Along the shores of the peninsula—and easily accessible by good tarmac roads from Freetown—are some thirty miles of white sand, palm fringed beaches, totally unspoilt and totally inviting for the holiday or business visitor alike.



His Excellency The President, Dr Siaka P. Stevens, inspecting a parade mounted by the Republic's armed forces.

## Undiscovered tourist paradise



When in Freetown it will be well worthwhile visiting the Casino situated at the end of Lumley Beach road, Cape Sierra point. Centrally air-conditioned, the Casino has recently been refurbished and now offers a first class restaurant as well. Photos: A. Walsamis



Drummers of the well known Sierra Leone National Dance Troupe. The Troupe gives regular performances of authentic folk dances based on Sierra Leone's rich dance culture and has distinguished itself internationally in Africa, Europe, North and South America.

### RESTAURANTS AND NIGHT LIFE

In addition to the restaurants at the leading hotels, Freetown is well served by a variety of restaurants, clubs and night spots offering a wide range of European, African, Oriental and Lebanese dishes. The visitor should not hesitate to try the local seafood, especially lobsters, as well as (perhaps for the first time!) such typical African specialities as Jollof Rice, Palaver Sauce, Pepper Chicken and so on. Palaver sauce, for example, is made from a chicken or fish casserole with seasoned rice and the leaves of the cassava. Imported or local cigarettes and drinks are not expensive and the local brewed beers and stout are an excellent thirst quencher at the end of a warm tropical day.



Attractive carvings, cloth and other handicrafts are popular 'bays' with visitors. Like that of our little friend below a smile will greet the visitor wherever he or she goes. Sierra Leoneans are by nature cheerful and relaxed people and the visitor will quickly be made to feel 'at home'.



Freetown is an expanding city and has one of the finest natural harbours in West Africa. Queen Elizabeth II Quay, recently extended, can now accommodate six ocean going vessels.



For further information about Sierra Leone please contact the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Freetown, Republic of Sierra Leone.

Your favourite travel agent will be able to give you details of remarkably good value all-inclusive tours to Sierra Leone.

Information can also be had from Sierra Leone Embassies in Bonn, Moscow, Rome and Washington. The Sierra Leone High Commission in London is at 33 Portland Place, London W1N 3AG. Tel. 01-636 6483.







SPORT

Football

The Wembley wind shifts to the west

By Geoffrey Green, Football Correspondent
When Liverpool—the favourites, and Newcastle United, the unpredictable, meet at Wembley...

Villa, set in 1957 against Manchester United. Tradition is important in the cup and Newcastle have to fall measure.

seem the sounder-equipped from stem to stern. Newcastle—under the wing of Joe Harvey, their winning captain...

Liverpool could do only once at Anfield, all of which shows character and a determination to survive against the odds by both sides.

Liverpool team

- 1. R. Clemence (goalkeeper)
2. T. Smith (right back)
3. A. Lindsay (left back)
4. P. Thompson (centre back)
5. P. Cormack (midfield)
6. E. Hughes (centre back, capt)
7. K. Keegan (forward)
8. B. Hall (midfield)
9. S. Highway (forward)
10. J. Toshack (forward)
11. I. Callaghan (midfield)
12. P. Royston (forward)

Cup final forecasts

Geoffrey Green: Liverpool 2, Newcastle 1. After a titanic battle of attrition...

Newcastle Utd

- 1. I. McFaul (goalkeeper)
2. J. McWhirter (right back)
3. J. Kennedy (right back)
4. J. McWhirter (right back)
5. P. Howard (centre back)
6. R. Mather (centre back)
7. J. Callaghan (midfield)
8. J. Smith (midfield)
9. M. Macdonald (forward)
10. J. Todd (forward)
11. I. Callaghan (midfield)
12. P. Royston (forward)

Manchester U signing

Manchester United last night signed the Hull City striker, Stuart Pearson, for £170,000...

Orient miss promotion by one point after draw

Orient 1 Aston Villa 1
A penalty by Graydon seven minutes into the second half cancelled Orient's ambitions of first division football next season...

Argentina player drives strongly to take lead in French Open

From Peter Ryde, Golf Correspondent, Chantilly, May 3
Vicente Fernandez, a 27-year-old Argentine player with a polo limp, slipped into the lead at the ball-club stage of the French Open...

He was in his own danger of losing grip on his round when he dropped strokes at the 10th and 13th by under-clubbing...



Horton: pleased with game, but found birdies hard to come by

Cricket

Indians far from home in the West Country

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent
TADNTON: Somerset drew with the Indians...

Derbyshire v Sussex

DERBYSHIRE: First innings, 246 for 7
Sussex: First innings, 215 for 7

Notts v Essex

NOTTINGHAM: First innings, 151 for 10
Essex: First innings, 151 for 10

Cambridge U v Yorks

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First innings, 215 for 7
Yorkshire: First innings, 215 for 7

Real Tennis

From Sydney Friskin, Madrid, May 3
Of the seven matches played today in the European Cup hockey tournament...

Hockey

From Sydney Friskin, Madrid, May 3
Of the seven matches played today in the European Cup hockey tournament...

Boxing

By Neil Allen, Boxing Correspondent
Errol McKewen, the 17-year-old Irish flyweight, won his first professional fight...

Bugner defends title

Rome, May 3: The European heavyweight boxing champion Joe Bugner...

Sussex brought down by deteriorating wicket

Sussex, caught on a Derby pitch which has become the subject of concern, toppled to 56 all out...

Today's cricket

Derbyshire v Sussex: 1st day, 1st innings
Sussex: 56 all out

Derbyshire v Sussex

DERBYSHIRE: First innings, 246 for 7
Sussex: First innings, 215 for 7

Notts v Essex

NOTTINGHAM: First innings, 151 for 10
Essex: First innings, 151 for 10

Gomes glances a ball to long leg during his innings of 85



Gomes glances a ball to long leg during his innings of 85

Richards the imponderable quantity in any equation

By Alan Gibson
LDRS: Middlesex (18 pts) beat Hampshire (3) by 100 runs.

Ireland must assert themselves still more

From Sydney Friskin, Madrid, May 3
Of the seven matches played today in the European Cup hockey tournament...

Real Tennis

From Sydney Friskin, Madrid, May 3
Of the seven matches played today in the European Cup hockey tournament...

For the record

GOLF
DALLAS: B. H. Barnes, G. R. Charles, J. G. Hume, J. L. Jones, J. R. ...

Lovell leads the challenge by the new generation

By Our Real Tennis Correspondent
University player, Alan Lovell, in the final of the Amateur real tennis singles championship...

Modern pentathlon

WARSAW, Poland, May 3: The modern pentathlon competition...

Cycling

ATLANTA: Tour of Spain: 40th race: First section (1st day) won by J. ...

Judo

CRYSTAL PALACE: Judo competition...

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Stanley Cup playoffs...

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Detroit Tigers...

Other match

THE OVAL: Lancashire 314 for 8
Derbyshire 256 for 8

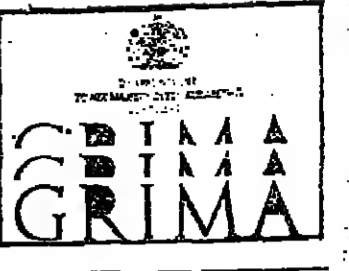
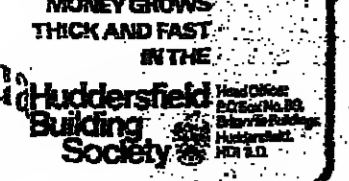
Second XI competition

1st XI: 178 for 10
2nd XI: 178 for 10





THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS



Norwegian gas from Frigg field may not be piped to Britain

By Roger Vinyo, Energy Correspondent. The British Gas Corporation... The Frigg field in the North Sea... The British Government, however, might not be unhappy if a Frigg pipeline did not come to Britain at the prices envisaged under the present contract.

Rises of up to 40 pc on cement from mid-May

By Hugh Clayton. The price of cement will rise by as much as 40 per cent in some areas on May 15. Manufacturers said yesterday that the maximum increase could have been halved if the Government had allowed them to continue their traditional pricing agreement.

Italian minister affirms that import measures do not conflict with interests of Community

From Roger Berchoud, Brussels, May 3. Signor Emilio Colombo, the Italian Minister for the Treasury, tried today to convince the European Commission that his government's imposition of a 50 per cent deposit on essential imports was not an anti-EEC measure but an internal one to regulate domestic liquidity.

4 more US banks lift prime rates to 11 pc

Four more United States banks have raised their prime rates to 11 per cent. They are California Bank, the Crocker National Bank of San Francisco and the National Bank of Detroit and Girard Bank.

New Scottish oil strategy

Mr Bruce Millan, Minister for Scotland, yesterday outlined steps intended to establish a "clear planning framework" within which the Government's oil strategy in Scotland could be developed.

Attack on 'inadequate' advertising reforms

By Patricia Tisdall. One of the toughest attacks ever made on British advertising practice was delivered yesterday by Mr John Methven, the Director-General of Fair Trading.

German trade surplus lower than expected

By Melvyn Westlake. The West German trade surplus for March, released yesterday after a 24-hour delay, proved to be rather lower than had been widely expected, although still very substantial.

MPs' Canadian trip

Eight MPs and a Liberal peer fly to Canada tomorrow to visit CANDU nuclear stations at Pickering and Bruce, Ontario, at the invitation of the Canadian Government.

SC offer values Lye shares at 13 1/2 times earnings

Our Financial Staff. The terms of the British Steel Corporation offer for the Lye steel stockholding group do not set as high a value on the shares as that which the Government's offer would do.

Whitehall gives grocers scope on cheaper lines

By Patricia Tisdall. Shopkeepers who sell the 44 groceries earmarked for the Government's price-cutting scheme will not have to offer more than about 15 per cent of their current price.

SEC cites Penn and associates on fraud charges

From Frank Vogl, Washington, May 3. The United States Department of Justice has given full access to the information on fraud in the Penn Central Company, gathered by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Court plea to veto Crest bid is adjourned

High Court proceedings to prevent the proposed bid by Crest International Securities for Ashbourne Investments were adjourned yesterday until next Tuesday.

10 payments and week-old Lucas strike

A dispute involving 600 production workers in the Lucas organization ended yesterday with the company agreeing to pay 10 ex gratia payments.

Lord Stokes gives his staff all the facts on outlook

By Clifford Webb. British Leyland has launched a big communications exercise to tell its 171,000 employees in Britain "the facts" about the group's problems and its hopes.

How the markets moved

Table with columns for Rises, Falls, and Equities. Lists various stocks and their price movements.

Antony Gibbs' answer to the Finance Bill. Advertisement for financial planning services, including contact information and a coupon.









London and Regional Market Prices  
Gilts hold steady

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 29 Dealings End, May 10 Contango Day, May 13 Settlement Day, May 21  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days



Main market data table with columns for various categories: BRITISH FUNDS, COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, FOREIGN STOCKS, DOLLAR STOCKS, BANKS AND DISCOUNTS, BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL, FINANCIAL TRUSTS, SHIPPING, MINES, INSURANCE, INVESTMENT TRUSTS, RUBBER, and REGIONS. Each section lists numerous companies and their corresponding market prices.





DEATHS

BARRHOLLOMEW—On May 1st, 1974, Dorothy Barrhollomew, nee... (text continues with details of death)

DEATHS

PRESTLEY—On 2nd May, 1974, Dorothy Prestley, nee... (text continues with details of death)

DEATHS

RICHARD—On 3rd May, 1974, Geoffrey Richard, nee... (text continues with details of death)

DEATHS

BOLINGBROKE—On 1st May, 1974, Gordon Bolingbroke, nee... (text continues with details of death)

DEATHS

BUCKLEY—On 2nd May, 1974, John Buckley, nee... (text continues with details of death)

DEATHS

CALVERT—On 28 April, after a long illness, John Calvert, nee... (text continues with details of death)

DEATHS

CHAMBERLAIN—On 2nd May, 1974, John Chamberlain, nee... (text continues with details of death)

DEATHS

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DEATHS

CHAMBERLAIN—On 2nd May, 1974, John Chamberlain, nee... (text continues with details of death)

BIRTHS

BACON—On April 15th, at Neeruchan, Vale, N.W., a daughter, Elizabeth...

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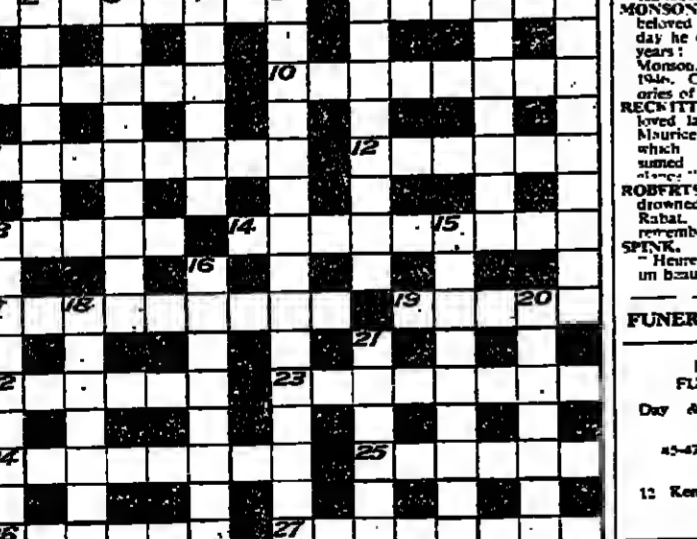
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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 13,679



ACROSS: 1 Succeeded in getting apple... 4 Smuggled Benedictine... 7 After ten minutes...

PERSONAL COLUMNS

WINSTON CHURCHILL, MP... LUNN POLY... AT FALCON INNS AND STRAND HOTELS...

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